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ABSTRACT

This report examines the status of America's children and families in 1989, and confirms that major demographic, social, and economic changes during the past two decades have had profound effects on individual and family life. After an introduction, contents organized in 125 subsections focus on numerous dimensions of population and residence, family environment, parental employment and child care, income and economic well-being, education, health, behavior, attitudes, and government programs affecting children. At least 125 tables of data are included in the topical subsections. It is maintained that as children decline as a proportion of the American population, their lives become more precious, and policymakers' responsibility to them even greater. It is concluded that if policymakers do not become motivated to promote policies that can reverse today's alarming trends, they will enter the 21st century besieged by the negative effects of their failure. Additional views taking exception to this conclusion are included. (RH)

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U.S. CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES: CURRENT CONDITIONS AND RECENT TRENDS, 1989

A REPORT

together with

ADDITIONAL VIEWS

OF THE

SELECT COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ONE HUNDRED FIRST CONGRESS

FIRST SESSION

November 14, 1989.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

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November 14, 1989

The Honorable Thomas J. Foley
The Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Speaker:

The Committee on Children, Youth, and Families is pleased to transmit the enclosed report entitled "U.S. Children and Their Families: Current Conditions and Recent Trends, 1989."

The report, which is being filed in accordance with Title II, Section 206.(a) of H. Res. 84, expands and updates two previous reports of the same name. It represents a concise statistical summary of the most recent national data on population and residence, family environment, parental employment and child care, income and economic well-being, education, health and health-related behaviors, behavior and attitudes, and selected government programs affecting children.

Respectfully submitted.

Sincerely,

George Miller

GEORGE MILLER
Chairman

Enclosure

U.S. CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES: CURRENT CONDITIONS AND RECENT TRENDS, 1989

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The Committee wishes to thank Child Trends, Inc. for compiling this report. Child Trends is a not-for-profit research organization dedicated to improving the scope, quality, and use of statistical information about children and families.

Their preparation of this report was made possible by Grant No. SES-8501616 from the National Science Foundation, for support of activities aimed at "Improving the Basic Research Potential of Federal Statistics on Children, Youth, and Families," and by supplementary support provided by the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

U.S. CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES: CURRENT CONDITIONS AND RECENT TRENDS, 1989

INTRODUCTION

"U.S. Children and Their Families: Current Conditions and Recent Trends, 1989" re-examines the status of America's children and families. It confirms what the two previous editions of this committee report have identified: major demographic, social and economic changes over the past two decades have had profound effects on the lives of the nation's children and families.

The report documents the continuing change in family demographics:

- Families with children today comprise only 36 percent of all American households compared to 45 percent in 1970 and 38 percent in 1980.

- Children continue to decrease as a share of the entire population, however, between 1980-1986, the number of preschool children increased by nearly 11 percent and will continue to grow through 1990. Minority children will be an increasing proportion of all children, comprising nearly one in four children by the year 2010.

- Between 1980-1988, the number of children living only with their mother increased by 21 percent, from 11.4 million to 13.5 million.

- During the 1980s, the proportion of children under 18 with working mothers increased from 53 percent in 1980 to 60 percent in

1988. Women with infants make up the fastest growing group in the labor force.

Throughout the 1980s, the most profound influence on American families has been the mounting economic pressures which have diminished their resources and made more children more vulnerable. The combined effects of persistently high rates of poverty, declining earnings, underemployment, and single parenting have made childhood far more precarious and less safe for millions of America's children. Because these conditions are significantly worse for black and Hispanic families, their children grow up in disproportionately greater jeopardy.

For example:

- Children, especially young children, continue to be the single largest poverty group. In 1987, one in five children, and one in four preschool children, lived in poverty. Black and Hispanic children are two-to-three times more likely to be living in poverty than are white children.

- Median family income has increased slightly since 1985 but is still below 1970 levels, in real terms. Family incomes of black and Hispanic children have continued to decline. Overall, the median family income of white children is more than 1-3/4 times that of Hispanic children, and double that of black children. Between 1970 and 1987, the median income of children living in single-parent families declined by 19 percent.

- Among low-income families with children, average family income declined 14 percent between 1979 and 1987 compared with a 19 percent increase for the highest-income families.

- In 1988, 20 percent of all children had no form of public or private health insurance coverage compared with 17 percent in 1982.

The most extreme examples of the social consequences of this economic stress appear in the dramatic increases in child abuse reports, juvenile arrests and children living in foster homes and public and private residential facilities.

Some signs of progress also are apparent in this assessment:

- The gap between the reading, science, and mathematics scores of black and white children continues to narrow. While black youth continue to trail white youth in academic achievement scores, their scores have improved at a much higher rate.

- Average SAT scores continue to rise slowly but steadily, reversing a significant decline during the 1970s.

- Today's children are more likely than past generations of children to have parents who graduated from high school, increasing from 70 percent in 1979 to 78 percent in 1988.

- The number of alcohol-related traffic deaths among teens has decreased by 27 percent between 1982-1987.

This report is the Select Committee on Children, Youth, and Families' third national assessment since 1983 of the conditions in which American children and their families live. By including new data, such as that on young children, homeless children, working families and pediatric AIDS, we are able to present a sharper portrait of the social, health and economic circumstances of American families, and one that can be of greater value to Congress, the Administration, and other policymakers in developing improved policies that benefit our families.

At the same time, we do not use every statistical series available, but only those for which there are reasonably reliable national measures. Nevertheless, it is important to note that national data may mask regional and local differences.

In providing a detailed account of social and economic conditions affecting children and their families, our reports have utilized, as well as stimulated, new and more sophisticated data collection on children and families. Federally funded surveys now include detailed analyses on child care arrangements, child health status, child nutrition, family living arrangements, and parental employment.

This information is critical in enabling policymakers to make informed decisions about funding for family and child programs, but it does not go far enough. There remains a serious lack of solid, national statistics on minority children and children at-risk. And the fact that many federal agencies fail to analyze and publish data in a timely fashion continues to handicap effective public policymaking for these children.

Statistics may appear cold and impersonal, but they depict a reality which calls for action. The numbers presented in this report and its predecessors tell us that not just for one or two years, but day after day in this decade, children continue to be assaulted by volatile economic and social forces. The persistent problems of poverty and poor health are compounded by alarming rises in homelessness, youth violence and the emergence of drug addiction and AIDS among babies.

As children decline as a proportion of the American population, their lives become more precious, and our responsibility to them even greater. The test now is whether we are motivated to promote policies that we know can reverse these alarming trends in the 1990s, or whether we will enter the 21st century besieged by the worst effects of our failure.

We hope that this report, which confirms dramatic and continuing changes in the conditions and lives of American families, will further enhance our ability, and our willingness, to make sound policy choices for their benefit and for the well-being of the nation.

(Signed)

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POPULATION AND RESIDENCE

(1)

1. **Child Population**. By July 1990, there will be approximately 64.3 million persons under the age of 18 living in the United States. As a result of the post-World War II baby boom and the subsequent "birth dearth" of the 1970s, there has been a marked fluctuation in the overall size of the child population during the past four decades, with the total number of children ranging from 47 million in 1950 to nearly 70 million in 1970. By 1980, the number of children had fallen to below 64 million, but it is expected to rise to about 67 million by the year 2000, and then to decline to 65 million by 2010.

These fluctuations are reflected in the changing composition of the child population by age. The number of preschool children has increased by more than 3 million since 1980, but is expected to decrease again by the turn of the century. When compared with 1970, the number of elementary-school children continues to be low, but will increase through the year 2000 before dropping off again. The number of secondary-school youth will decline through 1990, but then increase by the turn of the century.

Although the number of children has fallen since the 1970s, the size of the overall population has continued to increase. Thus, children now make up a smaller fraction of the total population -- 26 percent -- than they did in the past -- 36 percent in 1960. By 2010, children will represent only 23 percent of the population. Minority group members will continue to grow as a proportion of all children, comprising 1 in 3 children by 2010.

Number of Children Under 18 by Age and Race/Hispanic Origin, 1940-2010

Number in Millions

	1940	1950	1960	1970	1980	1985	1990	2000	2010
							----(projected)---		
Total ages 0-17	40.4	47.3	64.2	69.6	63.7	63.0	64.3	67.4	64.8
Age									
0-5	12.7	19.1	24.3	21.0	19.6	21.6	23.0	21.3	21.5
6-11	13.1	15.3	21.7	24.6	20.8	19.8	21.8	22.9	21.2
12-17	14.6	12.9	18.2	24.1	23.3	21.6	19.5	23.2	22.2
Race/Hispanic Origin									
White	35.5	41.3	55.5	59.1	52.5	51.1	51.9	53.5	50.5
Non-White	4.9	6.0	8.7	10.6	11.2	11.9	12.4	13.9	14.3
Black	na	na	na	9.5	9.5	9.6	10.3	11.4	11.5
Hispanic	na	na	na	na	5.3	6.3	7.1	8.7	9.7
Children as a percentage of total U.S. population	31%	31%	36%	34%	28%	26%	26%	25%	23%

---

na = Not available.

Note: "Non-white" refers to all races other than white, and includes blacks, Indians, Japanese, Chinese, and any other race except white. Blacks comprise the great majority of non-whites. People of Hispanic origin can be of any race.

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 1970 Census Volume, Characteristics of the Population, U.S. Summary, Table 52, 1980 Census Volume, General Population Characteristics, U.S. Summary, Table 41, Current Population Reports, Series P-25, No. 311, Estimates of the Population of the United States by Single Years of Age, Color, and Sex, 1900 to 1959, pages 22-23, 42-43, Series P-25, No. 917, Preliminary Estimates of the Population of the United States by Age, Sex, and Race: 1970 to 1981, Table 2, Series P-25, No. 985, Estimates of the Population of the United States by Age, Sex, and Race: 1980 to 1985, Table 2, Series P-25, No. 985, Projections of the Hispanic Population: 1983 to 2080, Table 2, Series P-25, No. 952, Projections of the Population of the United States by Age, Sex, and Race: 1983 to 2080, Table 6.

2. **Births and Birth Rates**. An estimated 3.9 million babies were born in the United States during 1988, the largest number of births since 1964. The rise in births is mostly a reflection of the increasing number of "baby boom" adults in their childbearing years, since birth rates have risen relatively little since 1975 and are lower than they were in 1970. The black birth rate in 1986 was nearly 50 percent higher than the white rate.

Number of Live Births (in thousands), 1950-1988

	1950	1960	1970	1975	1980	1985	1986	1987	1988
Total	3,632	4,258	3,731	3,144	3,612	3,761	3,757	3,809	3,913*
White	3,108	3,601	3,091	2,552	2,899	2,991	2,970	na	na
Non-White	524	657	640	592	714	769	786	na	na
Black	na	602	572	512	590	608	621	na	na

Live Births per 1,000 people in U.S. population

	1950	1960	1970	1975	1980	1985	1986	1987	1988
Total	24.1	24.0	18.4	14.6	15.9	15.8	15.6	15.7	15.9*
White	23.0	22.9	17.4	13.6	14.9	14.8	14.5	na	na
Non-White	33.3	32.9	25.1	21.0	22.5	21.4	21.4	na	na
Black	na	na	25.3	20.7	22.1	21.1	21.2	na	na

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* Provisional data.

Source: National Center for Health Statistics, *Vital Statistics of the United States, 1986*, Vol. I, Natality, Table 1-1, and *Monthly Vital Statistics Report*, Vol. 37, No. 12, March 28, 1989.

3. **Average Number of Children Born Per Woman**. In 1986, the average number of children born per woman was 1.84. Since 1975, this number has been below replacement level, i.e., the level required to maintain the population at its current size (about 2.06 children per woman). After the post-World War II baby boom, the number of children born per woman fell dramatically among both non-whites and whites. For whites, the number has risen slightly since the mid-1970s.

Although differences have decreased somewhat over time, non-whites continue to have more children per woman than whites. In 1960, non-white women had an average of one child more than white women. By 1986, the difference was down to less than one-half.

Although Hispanic women have more children than non-Hispanic women, there is substantial variation within the Hispanic population. Women of Mexican origin, for example, have more children, on average, than black, non-Hispanic women. Cuban women, on the other hand, have even fewer children than non-Hispanic white women.

Average Number of Children Born Per Woman, 1940-1986
(Total Fertility Rates/1000)

	1940	1950	1960	1965	1970	1975	1980	1985	1986
Total	2.30	3.09	3.65	2.91	2.48	1.77	1.84	1.84	1.84
White	2.23	2.98	3.53	2.78	2.39	1.69	1.75	1.75	1.74
Non-White	2.87	3.93	4.52	3.81	3.07	2.28	2.32	2.26	2.28
Black	na	na	4.54	3.83	3.10	2.24	2.27	2.20	2.23
Total Hispanic[1]							2.53		
Mexican							2.90		
Puerto Rican							2.05		
Cuban							1.30		
Other Hispanic[2]							2.06		
Non-Hispanic							1.81		
White							1.69		
Black							2.35		

Note: Total fertility rates show the number of children that would be born to 1,000 women if they were subject at each year to the observed age specific fertility rates in a given year. Dividing by 1,000 gives the average number of children that a typical woman would bear under the same assumptions. Because the total fertility rate is unaffected by differences in the age composition of women 15-49, it is a useful statistic for comparing fertility across different populations.

[1] Data on Hispanic origin were obtained from 22 reporting states, accounting for about 90 percent of all Hispanic origin births in the United States, but for only about 57% of all births in the nation. To calculate total fertility rates, it is necessary to know the number of women in each age and ethnicity category. For the states reporting Hispanic origin information on their birth certificates, such data are currently only available during census years.

[2] Includes Central and South American and other and unknown Hispanics.

Source: National Center for Health Statistics, 1988, Vital Statistics of the United States, 1986, Vol. I, Natality, Table 1-6 and NCHS, S.J. Ventura, "Births of Hispanic Parentage, 1980," Monthly Vital Statistics Report, Vol. 32, No.6, Supplement, Table 5.

4. **Fertility Rates by Age**. The number of births per 1,000 women in a particular age group -- the age-specific fertility rate -- has fallen in most age and race groups from highs recorded during the peak years of the baby boom. An exception is the rate for very young white teenagers, which increased by 50 percent between 1960 and 1986 and by 20 percent between 1970 and 1986. The fertility rate for very young black teenagers, which was more than 7 times higher than the white rate in 1986, has declined since 1970, but remains higher than it was in 1960. Fertility rates for white women in their thirties fell during the 1970s but have turned upward in recent years. Fertility rates among women in their early forties are half of what they were in 1970 and are substantially lower than they were in 1960.

Trend data are not currently available by Hispanic origin of the mother. The age-specific fertility rates, however, demonstrate the wide diversity in reproductive behavior within the Hispanic population. Mexican-origin women exceed the fertility rates of all other groups at ages 20 and older. Cuban women, on the other hand, have the lowest rates of any group -- Hispanic or non-Hispanic.

Fertility Rates by Age, 1940-1986
(Births Per 1,000 Women in Age Group)

	Total 15-44 Years	10-14 Years	15-19 Years	20-24 Years	25-29 Years	30-34 Years	35-39 Years	40-44 Years
Total								
1986	65.4	1.3	50.6	108.2	109.2	69.3	24.3	4.1
1980	68.4	1.1	53.0	115.1	112.9	61.9	19.8	3.9
1970	87.9	1.2	68.3	167.8	145.1	73.3	31.7	8.1
1960	118.0	.8	89.1	258.1	197.4	112.7	56.2	15.5
1950	106.2	1.0	81.6	196.6	166.1	103.7	52.9	15.1
1940	79.9	.7	54.1	135.6	122.8	83.4	46.3	15.6
White								
1986	61.9	.6	41.8	101.5	108.3	68.9	23.3	3.7
1980	64.7	.6	44.7	109.5	112.4	60.4	18.5	3.4
1970	84.1	.5	57.4	163.4	145.9	71.9	30.0	7.5
1960	113.2	.4	79.4	252.8	194.9	109.6	54.0	14.7
1950	102.3	.4	70.0	190.4	165.1	102.6	51.4	14.5
1940	77.1	.2	45.3	131.4	123.6	83.4	45.3	15.0
Black								
1986	82.4	4.6	98.1	143.7	105.9	62.2	25.5	5.1
1980	88.1	4.3	100.0	146.3	109.1	62.9	24.5	5.8
1970	115.4	5.2	140.7	202.7	136.3	79.6	41.9	12.5
1960	153.5	4.3	156.1	295.4	218.6	137.1	73.9	21.9
1950	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na
1940	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na
Hispanic, 1980[1]	95.4	1.7	82.2	156.4	132.1	83.2	39.9	10.6
Mexican	111.3	1.9	95.6	176.8	147.1	95.2	48.4	14.9
Puerto Rican	77.0	2.3	83.0	133.3	98.5	58.7	26.9	6.1
Cuban	41.9	.3	25.3	80.2	84.1	48.4	17.2	3.6
Other Hispanic[2]	75.3	.9	52.3	123.7	118.6	74.1	33.9	8.0
Non-Hispanic, 1980	67.1	1.1	51.5	112.8	111.9	62.2	19.6	3.6
White	62.4	.4	41.2	105.5	110.6	59.9	17.7	3.0
Black	90.7	4.6	105.1	152.2	111.7	65.2	25.8	5.8

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[1] Data on Hispanic origin were obtained from 22 reporting states, accounting for about 90 percent of all Hispanic origin births in the United States, but for only about 57 percent of all births in the nation. To calculate age-specific birth rates, it is necessary to know the number of women in each age and ethnicity category. For the states reporting Hispanic origin information on their birth certificates, such data are currently only available during census years.

[2] Includes Central and South American and other and unknown Hispanics.

Source: National Center for Health Statistics, *Vital Statistics of the United States, 1986*, Vol. I, Natality, Table 1-6 and NCHS, S.J. Ventura, "Births of Hispanic Parentage, 1980," Monthly Vital Statistics Report, Vol. 32, No.6, Supplement, Tables 5 and 6.

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5. **Fertility of U.S. Women by Employment, Education, Race, and Hispanic Origin**. Regardless of race or Hispanic origin, women with more education bear fewer children and are more likely to be childless than women with fewer years of schooling. Across all education levels, white women have fewer children than either black or Hispanic women. Working women and women in professional or managerial occupations bear fewer children than do other women.

Children Ever Born Per 1,000 Women and Percent Childless, by Labor Force Status and Occupation, June 1987

	Current Age of Woman						
	18-24 Years		25-34 Years		35-44 Years		
	Children Born Per 1,000 Women	Percent Childless	Children Born Per 1,000 Women	Percent Childless	Children Born Per 1,000 Women	Percent Childless	Total No. of Children (mil.)
Total	429	71.7%	1,369	31.6%	2,089	15.6%	71.3
Labor Force Status							
In labor force	296	79.2%	1,148	39.1%	1,938	17.8%	45.1
Employed	263	81.1%	1,118	40.1%	1,911	18.2%	41.7
Unemployed	546	65.2%	1,644	23.1%	2,532	8.9%	3.4
Not in L.F.	801	50.9%	1,934	12.2%	2,502	9.4%	26.1
Occupation[1]							
Managerial and professional	167	87.7%	794	54.2%	1,598	25.3%	9.2
Technical, sales, administrative support	226	83.0%	1,092	39.2%	1,881	17.3%	17.7
Service-related occupations	320	78.5%	1,431	28.3%	2,417	10.6%	8.3
Farming, forestry, and fishing	289	80.4%	1,870	20.9%	2,310	20.3%	.6
Precision production, craft, repair	341	78.2%	1,216	36.6%	2,084	16.8%	1.2
Operators, fabricators, & laborers	477	64.8%	1,569	25.6%	2,175	11.8%	4.7

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[1] Among those employed.

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, Fertility of American Women: June 1987, Series P-20, No. 427, Table 2.

(continued)

Children Ever Born Per 1,000 Women and Percent Childless, by Education and Race/Hispanic Origin, June 1987

	Current Age of Woman						
	18-24 Years		25-34 Years		35-44 Years		Total Number of Children (mil.)
	Children Born Per 1,000 Women	Percent Childless	Children Born Per 1,000 Women	Percent Childless	Children Born Per 1,000 Women	Percent Childless	
Total	429	71.7%	1,369	31.6%	2,089	15.6%	71.3
All Races							
Less than H.S.	885	49.0%	2,162	12.0%	2,919	8.8%	15.7
High School	478	66.9%	1,529	22.9%	2,138	12.2%	32.2
Some college	158	87.7%	1,241	33.7%	1,938	15.1%	13.5
College/more	79	93.6%	728	57.4%	1,611	26.6%	10.0
White							
Less than H.S.	837	50.9%	2,061	13.1%	2,760	9.0%	11.3
High School	427	69.6%	1,487	24.2%	2,114	12.1%	26.6
Some college	140	89.2%	1,204	35.1%	1,913	15.5%	11.1
College/more	60	94.8%	720	58.3%	1,577	28.2%	8.6
Black							
Less than H.S.	1,078	39.8%	2,553	8.3%	3,557	8.0%	3.7
High School	756	51.7%	1,777	15.0%	2,375	11.9%	4.8
Some college	286	76.6%	1,411	25.7%	2,124	11.1%	1.9
College/more	290	81.0%	878	43.7%	1,848	16.2%	.8
Hispanic[1]							
Less than H.S.	1,085	43.4%	2,381	11.9%	3,185	6.6%	4.1
High School	505	65.2%	1,732	18.6%	2,582	9.4%	2.4
Some college	235	81.9%	1,373	26.6%	2,166	9.2%	.8
College/more	na	na	621	63.0%	1,544	28.5%	na

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na Population base too small to provide reliable estimates.

[1] Persons of Hispanic Origin may be of any race.

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, Fertility of American Women: June 1987, Series P-20, No. 427, Table 2.

6. **Births to Unmarried Women**. In 1950, only 4 percent of all births were to unmarried mothers, whereas in 1986, births to unmarried mothers accounted for 23 percent of all births -- nearly one in four. The number of births to unmarried mothers per year has increased by a factor of five, from 142,000 in 1950 to 878,000 in 1986. In 1986, 2 out of 3 births to unmarried women were to women over the age of 20.

While the number of births to unmarried women has risen, the number of births to married women has declined. Thus, the proportion of children born to unmarried women has been rising rapidly. Among blacks, three out of five births now occur outside marriage, despite a decline in the rate of births to unmarried black women. Almost 32 percent of Hispanic births and 16 percent of white births in 1986 were to unmarried mothers.

The proportion of unmarried births accounted for by teenage mothers has declined from 50 percent in 1970 to 33 percent in 1986. However, the proportion of births to teens that occurs outside marriage continues to increase. In 1986, 61 percent of all births to women under age 20 were non-marital.

Births to Unmarried Women, 1950-1986

	1950	1960	1970	1975	1980	1985	1986
Number (thousands)	142	224	399	448	666	828	878
Percent of all births	4.0%	5.3%	10.7%	14.2%	18.4%	22.0%	23.4%
Non-marital birth rate[1]	14.1	21.6	26.4	24.5	29.4	32.8	34.3
Number of births to unmarried women under 20 (thousands)	59	92	200	223	272	280	290
Percent of all births to women under 20 that are non-marital	na	15%	31%	40%	48%	59%	61%
Percent of total non-marital births that are to women under 20	42%	41%	50%	50%	41%	34%	33%

Percent of All Births Occurring Outside Marriage, by Race/Hispanic Origin

	1950	1960	1970	1975	1980	1985	1986
White	1.8%	2.3%	5.7%	7.3%	11.0%	14.5%	15.7%
Non-white	18.0%	21.6%	34.9%	44.2%	48.5%	51.4%	52.4%
Black	na	na	37.6%	48.8%	55.3%	60.1%	61.2%
Hispanic	na	na	na	na	23.6%	29.5%	31.6%
Non-Hispanic	na	na	na	na	18.5%	21.6%	22.8%

Non-Marital Birth Rate[1], by Race/Hispanic Origin

	1950	1960	1970	1975	1980	1985	1986
White	6.1	9.2	13.9	12.4	17.6	21.8	23.2
Non-white	71.2	98.3	89.9	79.0	77.2	73.2	74.8
Black	na	na	95.5	84.2	82.9	78.8	80.9
Hispanic	na	na	na	na	52.0	na	na
Non-Hispanic	na	na	na	na	27.7	na	na

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[1] Births per 1,000 unmarried women aged 15-44.

Note: Data on Hispanic origin are based on information from 22 reporting states in 1980 and from 23 reporting states and the District of Columbia in 1985 and 1986.

Source: National Center for Health Statistics, Vital Statistics of the United States, Annual Natality Volumes for 1950, 1960, 1970, 1975, 1980, 1985, and 1986; Monthly Vital Statistics Report, "Advance Report of Final Natality Statistics, 1986," Vol. 37, No.3, Supplement, Table 27; Monthly Vital Statistics Report, "Births of Hispanic Parentage, 1985," Vol. 36, No. 11, Supplement, Table 6; Monthly Vital Statistics Report, "Births of Hispanic Parentage, 1980," Vol. 32, No. 6, Supplement, Tables 1 and 11.

7. **Households with Children**. Families with children, particularly married couples with children, are a decreasing proportion of all households. By 1987, only 36 percent of all households were occupied by families with children, compared with 45 percent in 1970. As of March 1987, nearly 32 million of the 89.5 million households in the U.S. were occupied by families with children under the age of 18.

Number and Proportion of U.S. Households with Children Under 18 and Under 6, 1970-1987

	1970	1980	1985	1986	1987
	Number of Households (in millions)				
All households	63.4	80.8	86.8	88.5	89.5
Family households	51.5	59.6	62.7	63.6	64.5
With children under 18	28.8	31.0	31.1	31.7	31.9
With children under 6	13.9	13.5	14.2	14.6	14.7
	Percent Distribution				
All households	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Family households	81.2%	73.7%	72.3%	71.9%	72.1%
With children under 18	45.4%	38.4%	35.8%	35.8%	35.6%
Married couple	40.3%	30.9%	27.9%	27.8%	27.5%
Female householder	4.5%	6.7%	6.9%	6.9%	7.0%
Male householder	.5%	.8%	1.0%	1.1%	1.1%
With children under 6	21.9%	16.7%	16.4%	16.5%	16.4%
Married couple without children	30.3%	29.9%	30.1%	29.7%	30.1%
Other families without children	5.6%	5.4%	6.3%	6.3%	6.4%
Non-family households	18.8%	26.3%	27.7%	28.1%	27.9%

Note: The Bureau of the Census defines a family as a group of two or more persons residing together and related by birth, marriage, or adoption. A household consists of all those persons who occupy a housing unit. It includes related family members, and all unrelated persons, if any. A person living alone in a housing unit or a group of unrelated persons sharing a housing unit is counted as a household. A non-family household consists of a person or persons maintaining a household while living alone or with non-relatives only. A householder is usually the person, or one of the persons, in whose name the home is owned or rented. If there is no such person in the household, the householder can be any adult household member.

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, Series P-20, Nos. 411, 419, and 424, Household and Family Characteristics: March 1985, March 1986, March 1987, Table 21 in each volume, plus unpublished revised tables for 1970 and 1980.

8. **Households with Children by Race and Hispanic Origin**. Because of the earlier childbearing and higher fertility rates of Hispanics and blacks, minority households are more likely than non-minority households to contain persons under the age of 18. As of March 1987, 58 percent of Hispanic households, 49 percent of black households, but only 37 percent of white households, contained a person or persons under the age of 18. The average number of young persons under 18 per household containing such persons is higher among Hispanics and blacks. In 1987, the number was 2.14 for Hispanics, 1.98 for blacks, and 1.81 for whites.

Number and Proportion of U.S. Households with Children, by Race and Hispanic Origin, March 1987

Type of household	All Ethnic Groups	White	Black	Hispanic
	Number of Households (in millions)			
All households	89.5	77.3	9.9	5.4
Households with members under 18[1]	34.3	28.4	4.9	3.1
Households with no members under 18	55.2	48.9	5.0	2.3
Average number of members under 18 per household with persons under 18	1.84	1.81	1.98	2.14
Households with children who are related to householder	33.8	27.9	4.8	3.1
Households with own children of householder:				
-- under 18 years of age	31.9	26.7	4.2	2.9
-- 6-17 years of age	23.6	19.5	3.3	2.1
-- under 6 years of age	14.7	12.4	1.8	1.6
-- under 3 years of age	8.7	7.5	1.0	.9
	Percent Distribution			
All households	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Households with members under 18[1]	38.4%	36.7%	49.3%	57.9%
Households with no members under 18	61.6%	63.3%	50.7%	42.1%
Households with children who are related to householder	37.8%	36.1%	48.4%	56.8%
Households with own children of householder:				
-- under 18 years of age	35.6%	34.6%	42.2%	52.8%
-- 6-17 years of age	26.4%	25.2%	33.7%	38.3%
-- under 6 years of age	16.4%	16.1%	18.4%	29.1%
-- under 3 years of age	9.8%	9.7%	10.0%	16.3%

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[1] Includes households where the householder or spouse was under 18, as well as households with own or related children.

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, Series P-20, No. 424, Household and Family Characteristics: March 1987, 1988, Tables 1, 21, and 22.

9. **Families with Related Children**. As of March 1988, there were 34 million families with related children in the United States. Three-quarters of these families -- 25.5 million -- were married-couple families. Nearly 8.5 million -- one in four -- were single-parent families.

The number of families with related children under 18 grew by 4 million between 1970 and 1988, but the number of married couples with children was half-a-million lower in 1988 than in 1970. During the same interval, the number of singleparent families more than doubled.

Since 1975, the number of Hispanic families with children has grown by 85 percent, whereas the number of black families with children has risen by 24 percent, and the number of white families with children has increased by only 4 percent. Of the 4.6 million Hispanic families with children in 1988, 70 percent were married-couple families and 23 percent were female-headed families. Of the 4.9 million black families with children, half were female-headed families and 45 percent were married-couple families.

Number of Families with Related Children Under 18 and Percent Distribution by Family Type, 1960-1988

(Numbers in Millions)

	1960	1970	1975	1980	1985	1987	1988
All families with related children	27.0	29.8	31.3	32.4	32.9	33.8	34.0
Type of Family							
Married-couple	24.1	26.1	25.9	25.6	25.0	25.6	25.5
Single-parent:							
Female-headed	2.5	3.4	4.9	6.0	6.8	7.1	7.2
Male-headed	.3	.4	.5	.7	1.1	1.1	1.3
Percent Distribution							
Married-couple	89.3%	87.5%	82.6%	79.1%	76.0%	75.6%	75.2%
Single-parent:							
Female-headed	9.4%	11.3%	15.7%	18.6%	20.7%	21.0%	21.1%
Male-headed	1.3%	1.2%	1.7%	2.3%	3.3%	3.4%	3.7%
White families with related children	24.1	26.3	26.9	27.3	27.4	27.9	27.9
Percent Distribution							
Married-couple	na	na	na	83.7%	81.0%	80.4%	80.3%
Single-parent:							
Female-headed	na	na	na	14.2%	15.8%	16.3%	16.1%
Male-headed	na	na	na	2.1%	3.2%	3.3%	3.6%
Black families with related children	na	3.4	3.9	4.3	4.5	4.8	4.9
Percent Distribution							
Married-couple	na	na	55.9%	48.8%	44.3%	46.5%	45.4%
Single-parent:							
Female-headed	na	na	41.4%	48.0%	51.8%	49.6%	50.1%
Male-headed	na	na	2.7%	3.2%	3.9%	3.9%	4.5%
Hispanic families with related children	na	na	2.5	3.0	3.9	4.4	4.6
Percent Distribution							
Married-couple	na	na	77.8%	75.3%	71.7%	70.8%	69.8%
Single-parent:							
Female-headed	na	na	18.7%	20.1%	23.0%	23.4%	23.4%
Male-headed	na	na	3.5%	4.6%	5.3%	5.8%	6.8%

Note: The Census Bureau defines a "family" as a group of two or more persons related by birth, marriage, or adoption who reside together; all such persons are considered as members of one family. Every family must include a householder. Boarders with children who are unrelated to the householder are not included in the count of families. "Related children" in a family include the householder's own children under 18 and all other children in the household who are related to the householder by blood, marriage, or adoption.

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, Series P-60, No. 163, Poverty in the United States: 1987, February 1989, Table 3.

10. **Geographic Residence of Child Population.** Overall, 46 percent of children under 18 lived in the suburbs of metropolitan areas in 1988, 30 percent lived inside the central cities, and 23 percent lived in non-metropolitan areas. There has been some growth in the number and proportion of black and Hispanic children living in suburbs, but as of 1988, 50 percent of white children lived in suburbs, but only 38 percent of Hispanic children and 25 percent of black children were suburban residents.

Minority children, particularly low-income children, are concentrated in the inner cities and poor neighborhoods of the major metropolitan areas. Between 1976 and 1988, the proportion of Hispanic children living in central cities increased from 47 percent to 54 percent, and the proportion in poverty areas grew from 34 percent to 41 percent.

During the same period, the proportion of black children in central cities remained at about 56 percent and the proportion in poverty areas stayed at about 53 percent. By contrast, only 25 percent of white children were central city dwellers in 1988, and only 12 percent lived in poverty areas.

Nineteen percent of all children and 47 percent of those in poor families lived in high poverty areas in 1988. Whereas 71 percent of poor black children and 58 percent of poor Hispanic children lived in poverty areas, only a third of poor white children resided there.

Note: Poverty areas are those where 20 percent or more of the population was below the poverty level as of the last census.

Distribution of Child Population in Central Cities, Suburbs, and Non-Metropolitan Areas, and in Poverty Areas, 1976 and 1988

	Number (millions)		Percent Distribution	
	1976	1988	1976	1988
All related children under 18	64.8	62.3	100.0%	100.0%
Living in metro areas	43.1	47.7	66.5%	76.6%
Inside central cities	17.4	19.0	26.9%	30.4%
Outside central cities	25.6	28.7	39.6%	46.1%
Living outside metro areas	21.6	14.6	33.5%	23.4%
Living in poverty areas	13.5	11.8	20.9%	18.9%
Poor children in areas	5.0	5.8	46.1%*	46.8%*
White children	54.1	50.4	100.0%	100.0%
Living in metro areas	35.2	37.9	65.0%	75.3%
Inside central cities	11.6	12.6	21.5%	25.0%
Outside central cities	23.5	25.3	43.5%	50.3%
Living outside metro areas	19.0	12.5	35.0%	24.7%
Living in poverty areas	8.2	6.2	12.7%	12.3%
Poor children in areas	2.2	2.5	32.7%*	32.6%*
Black children	9.4	9.5	100.0%	100.0%
Living in metro areas	6.9	7.8	73.9%	81.5%
Inside central cities	5.3	5.4	56.9%	56.3%
Outside central cities	1.6	2.4	17.0%	25.2%
Living outside metro areas	2.4	1.8	26.1%	18.5%
Living in poverty areas	5.1	5.0	54.0%	52.7%
Poor children in areas	2.7	3.1	70.7%*	71.1%*
Hispanic children	4.9	6.7	100.0%	100.0%
Living in metro areas	4.0	6.1	80.8%	91.6%
Inside central cities	2.3	3.6	46.8%	53.9%
Outside central cities	1.7	2.5	34.0%	37.8%
Living outside metro areas	.9	.6	19.2%	8.4%
Living in poverty areas	1.7	2.7	33.9%	40.6%
Poor children in areas	.8	1.5	51.3%*	57.5%*

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* Percentage of poor children in ethnic group who live in poverty areas.

Note: Shifts in metro residence are partly due to changes in definition of metropolitan statistical areas. The changes in definition have increased the area and population of metropolitan areas. Determination of poverty status is based on family income in previous year (i.e., 1975 and 1987).

Source: Child Trends, calculated from U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, Series P-60, No. 106, Tables 9 and 42, and No. 163, Tables 4 and 12, and unpublished data.

11. **Residence of Children in Owned, Rented, and Publicly Subsidized Housing**. The number and proportion of children living in housing owned by their parents or other family members have declined since the early 1980s. The number in owned housing dropped from 44 million, or 71 percent, in 1981 to less than 40 million, or 64 percent, in 1988. The proportion in rented housing increased from 29 to 36 percent over the same period. About 3.7 million children, or 6 percent, lived in publicly-owned or publicly-subsidized rental housing in 1988.

Most poor children (73 percent) and children in female-headed families (68 percent) resided in rental housing in 1988. Home-ownership has declined among these groups as well. Whereas 36 percent of poor children lived in owned housing in 1981, only 27 percent did so in 1988. Twenty-two percent of poor children lived in public housing in 1988.

Number and Proportion of Children Living In Owned Housing, Rented Housing, and Public Housing, by Family Type and Poverty Status, 1976-1988

	Number of Children (in millions)			Percent Distribution		
	1976	1981	1988	1976	1981	1988
All related children under 18	64.6	62.3	62.1	100%	100%	100%
Living in:						
Owned housing	45.2	44.0	39.9	70%	71%	64%
Rented housing	19.5	18.3	22.5	30	29	36
Public housing	3.8	2.7	3.7	6	4	6
In Families With Female Householder, No Husband Present	10.5	11.3	12.9	100%	100%	100%
Living in:						
Owned housing	3.9	4.6	4.1	37%	40%	32%
Rented housing	6.6	6.7	8.8	63	60	68
Public housing	1.9	1.8	2.7	18	16	21
In Families Below Poverty Level In Previous Year	10.8	11.1	12.4	100%	100%	100%
Living in:						
Owned housing	4.0	4.0	3.3	37%	36%	27%
Rented housing	6.9	7.1	9.1	63	64	73
Public housing	1.9	1.8	2.7	17	16	22

Note: Public housing includes both publicly-owned units and privately-rented, publicly-subsidized units.

Source: Child Trends, Inc. Calculated from U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, Series P-60, No. 163, Table 17 (1989); No. 133, Table 23 (1982); and No. 106, Table 24 (1977).

12. **Children Living in Institutions and Group Quarters**. In 1980 over 260,000 children in the U.S. were living in institutions and group quarters, or about 400 children per 100,000. The proportion under the care of institutions, such as mental hospitals and correctional facilities, was 262 per 100,000. Most of these were in "other" institutions, which includes detention centers, diagnostic and reception centers, training schools, and homes for unmarried mothers. A smaller proportion -- 146 per 100,000 -- was in group quarters such as military quarters, group homes, rooming or boarding houses, and college dorms.

Black children were much more likely than white children to be living in institutions (particularly correctional and "other" institutions); whereas Hispanic children were more likely than whites to be living in group quarters.

Overall, there has been a steady decline since 1960 in the proportion of children living in institutions and group quarters, a decline shared by whites, blacks, and (since 1970) Hispanics. This decline in the proportions has been greatest for the populations in group quarters. While more recent data on the full range of non-household living arrangements of children are unavailable, data on juveniles in custody (see Table 103) show sharp increases in recent years, increases large enough to reverse the decline in the rate of institutional living for children.

Number and Rate (per 100,000) of Children (under age 18) Living in Institutions or Group Quarters, 1960-1980

Type of Institution or Quarters	1960 Rate	1970 Rate	1980 Number	1980 Rate
ALL RACES/ETHNIC GROUPS	670	572	260,425	408
Institutions	370	342	167,306	262
Mental Hospital	--	27	16,494	26
Nursing Home	--	3	5,614	9
Correctional Institution	--	[a]	10,803	17
Other Institutions	--	312	134,395	211
Group Quarters	300	231	93,119	146
Rooming or Boarding House[b]	147	73	11,887	19
Military Quarters[c]	66	36	21,979	34
College Dormitory	27	27	24,541	38
Other Group Quarters	60	94	34,712	54
WHITES	599	497	173866	345
Institutions	351	304	113,795	226
Mental Hospital	--	25	12,584	25
Correctional Institution	--	[a]	5,505	11
Other Institutions	--	276	91,696	182
Group Quarters	248	192	60,071	119
Rooming or Boarding House[b]	88	55	7,311	15
Military Quarters[c]	72	38	17,202	34
College Dormitory	28	29	17,451	35
Other Group Quarters	59	71	18,107	36
BLACKS [d]	1,122	1,004	57120	607
Institutions	490	560	40,252	428
Mental Hospital	--	41	3,133	33
Nursing Home	--	3	1,170	12
Correctional Institution	--	[a]	4,371	46
Other Institutions	--	516	31,578	336
Group Quarters	632	444	16,868	179
Rooming or Boarding House[b]	517	174	1,681	18
Military Quarters[c]	26	25	2,844	30
College Dormitory	23	20	3,579	38
Other Group Quarters	67	226	8,764	93

(continued)

Number and Rate (per 100,000) of Children (under age 18) Living in Institutions or Group Quarters, 1960-1980 (continued)

Type of Institution or Quarters	1960 Rate	1970 Rate	1980 Number	1980 Rate
HISPANICS	NA	508	26,856	476
Institutions		270	13,531	240
Mental Hospital		16	935	17
Nursing Home		4	340	6
Correctional Institution		[a]	923	16
Other Institutions		250	11,333	201
Group Quarters		239	13,325	236
Rooming or Boarding House[b]		80	2,223	39
Military Quarters[c]		31	1,662	29
College Dormitory		18	2,148	38
Other Group Quarters		110	7,292	129

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[a] In 1970, "Other institutions" includes those in correctional facilities.

[b] In 1960 and 1970, "Rooming or boarding house" included, among other categories, persons living in housing units in which 6 or more unrelated persons were living together. In 1980, this definition was changed from "6 or more" to "10 or more." Had the same definition been applied in 1980, a larger proportion of children would have been classified as living in rooming or boarding houses.

[c] In 1960 and 1970 "military quarters" comprises only males living in military quarters. The figures for 1980 include females as well. This adds about 7 percent to the number of persons in military quarters in 1980. In 1970 and 1980 persons stationed on ships are included in "military quarters." In 1960 these persons are included in "other group quarters."

[d] The figures for 1960 are for non-whites, rather than for blacks. The great majority of non-whites in the U.S. are black.

Source: Calculated from the following tables: 1960 U.S. Census of Population; Volume 1, Characteristics of the Population; Part 1, U.S. Summary; Table 182; 1970 U.S. Census of Population; Volume 1, Characteristics of the Population; Part 1, U.S. Summary; Section 2, Chapter D, Detailed Characteristics; Table 205; 1980 U.S. Census of Population; PC80-1-D1-A, U.S. Summary, Detailed Population Characteristics; Table 266.

13. **Homeless Children**. Estimates of the number of children in the United States who are homeless on any given night range from less than 50,000 to 500,000. The number of homeless people has increased in recent years, and the characteristics of the homeless population have changed to include significantly more families and children. Studies by the Department of Housing and Urban Development indicate that, on any given night, the proportion of shelter-using homeless who are family members has increased from 21 percent in 1984 to 40 percent in 1988.[1]

Homeless adults with children are more likely than homeless alone to be female and members of a minority group. They are less likely to have a history of mental hospitalization, chemical dependency, or imprisonment, and are more likely to be receiving benefits such as food stamps, AFDC, and General Assistance. Homeless adults with children also spend less time homeless, on the average.

An additional group of concern, not usually included in calculations of homeless youth, are runaways. While there are no current data available that would provide a firm estimate, it has been estimated that, since 1976, the annual number of runaways is approximately 1 million.[2]

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[1] "A Report on the 1988 National Survey of Shelters for the Homeless," U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Policy Research, March 1989. Exhibit 12.

[2] Estimate provided by the staff of the Federal Runaway and Homeless Youth Program, Department of Health and Human Services, 1989.

Estimates of the Number of Homeless Children

Source	**Year**	**Number**	**Explanatory Notes**
Urban Institute	1987	35,000 homeless children	Includes only homeless using shelters over a 7-day period in cities with pop. over 100,000. Based on a nationally representative sample of service-using homeless individuals and providers of food and shelter for the homeless. Data collected in March 1987.
U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development	1988	40,000 homeless children [a]	Includes only shelter-using population in cities with population over 25,000 on an average night in 1988. Based on a probability sample of 200 shelters.
National Academy of Sciences	1987	100,000 homeless children [b]	Refers to any given night in the U.S. Estimate based on total of 735,000 homeless on any given night. Of these, 25 percent are members of intact families, of whom 55 percent are children.
U.S. Department of Education	1988	220,000 school-aged homeless children [c]	Based on state-collected data received from 45 states. Combines data of a variety of types, including daily counts, annual estimates, and partial counts from two states. The majority of states (40) reported annual counts. Fourteen states included data on numbers of preschool children, which totalled 33,119.
National Coalition of Homeless	1984	500,000 homeless children	Refers to any given night in U.S. Calculated by advocacy groups based on their contacts with service providers and shelter operators nationwide.

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[a] HUD reported that the total number of homeless people was 180,000, 30 percent of whom were single-parents and their children, and 6 percent of whom were couples with children.

[b] The sources for the numbers used in this estimate are as follows: 735,000 homeless on any given night--National Alliance to End Homelessness, 1987; 25% are family members--U.S. Conference of Mayors, 1986; of these, 55% are children--Barbanel, J., 1985.

[c] State Educational Agencies encountered difficulties in gathering the data, and used different methods and sources. Thus, the quantity and quality of information varied across locations.

Note: Estimates of the homeless population take two forms: annual estimates and point-in-time counts. The former attempts to assess the number of people in need of help in a year, the latter provides information on the number of shelter beds that are needed on a given night.

Source: Burt, Martha, and Barbara Cohen, "Feeding the Homeless: Does the Prepared Meals Provision Help?" Report to Congress on the Prepared Meals Provision, Volume II, Urban Institute, October 1988. Tables 2, 7, 21, and 25; "A Report on the 1988 National Survey of Shelters for the Homeless," U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Policy and Research, March 1989, Exhibits 1 and 12; "Homelessness, Health and Human Needs," National Academy of Sciences, Institute of Medicine, 1988, page 11; "Report to Congress of the Education of the Homeless Children and Youth Program," U.S. Department of Education, February 1989; unpublished data from the National Coalition of the Homeless, March 1989.

Selected Characteristics of Service-Using Homeless Adults With and Without Children in Cities Over 100,000 (Weighted Percentages), 1987

	Homeless with Children	Homeless Alone
Sex		
Male	12%	88%
Female	88%	12%
Race		
Black	54%	39%
White	22%	49%
Hispanic	20%	9%
Other	4%	3%
Marital Status		
Currently Married	23%	9%
Divorced/Separated	25%	30%
Widowed	6%	6%
Never Married	47%	56%
# Months Homeless		
Mean	14.6	41.3
Median	4.5	12.0
# Nights in Shelter in Past Week		
None	4%	27%
One	13%	25%
Two-Six	17%	17%
Seven	66%	31%
# Months without a job		
Mean	43.5	48.3
Median	19.5	20.0
Resources		
Food Stamps	48%	14%
Work	23%	24%
AFDC	33%	1%
General Assistance	33%	10%
SSI	2%	4%
Other Benefits[a]	4%	7%
Handouts	4%	18%
Other[b]	26%	43%
Cash Income (last month)		
Mean	$301	$146
Median	$300	$64
History of:		
Mental Hospitalization	11%	20%
Chemical Dependency Inpatient	12%	35%
% With Neither of above	84%	54%
Jail for > 5 days	18%	56%
State/Federal Prison	2%	26%
% With Neither of above	82%	40%

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[a] Other Benefits include SSDI, Social Security, veteran's benefits, worker's compensation, unemployment insurance.

[b] Includes receiving money from relatives, friends, trading or swapping things, gifts, selling blood, other.

Source: Burt, Martha, and Barbara Cohen, "Feeding the Homeless: Does the Prepared Meals Provision Help?" Report to Congress on the Prepared Meals Provision, Volume II, Urban Institute, Ocotober 1988. Tables 2, 7, 21 and 25.

14. **Children Who Move Each Year**. One in five young people in the U.S. moves to a different residence each year. More than 13 million children and youth between the ages of 1 and 19 moved between March 1986 and March 1987. Over 83 percent of the youth who moved, moved within the same state, and 65 percent moved within the same county. Nearly 14 percent of the movers moved to a different state.

Children between the ages of 1 and 4 are more likely to have moved than are older children and adolescents. Nearly 4 million of these young children -- more than one-quarter -- moved within the 12-month period.

Number and Proportion of
U.S. Children Who Moved Between
March of 1986 and March of 1987

Numbers of Children (in thousands)

Ages	U.S. Population	Total Movers	Moved within the United States: Same County	Same State	Different State	Moved from Abroad
1-19	66,588	13,452	8,767	2,439	1,875	370
1-4	14,430	3,956	2,631	717	509	99
5-9	17,518	3,546	2,360	654	468	64
10-14	16,454	2,731	1,816	465	371	78
15-19	18,186	3,219	1,960	603	527	129

Percent of Population in Age Group

Ages	Total Population	All Movers	Same County	Same State	Different State	Moved from Abroad
1-19	100.0%	20.2%	13.2%	3.7%	2.8%	.6%
1-4	100.0%	27.4%	18.2%	5.0%	3.5%	.7%
5-9	100.0%	20.2%	13.5%	3.7%	2.7%	.4%
10-14	100.0%	16.6%	11.0%	2.8%	2.3%	.5%
15-19	100.0%	17.7%	10.8%	3.3%	2.9%	.7%

Percent of All Movers

Ages	All Movers	Same County	Same State	Different State	Moved from Abroad
1-19	100.0%	65.2%	18.1%	13.9%	2.8%
1-4	100.0%	66.5%	18.1%	12.9%	2.5%
5-9	100.0%	66.6%	18.4%	13.2%	1.8%
10-14	100.0%	66.5%	17.0%	13.6%	2.9%
15-19	100.0%	60.9%	18.7%	16.4%	4.0%

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, Series P-20, No. 430, Geographical Mobility: March 1986 to March 1987, Table B.

15. **Children by State and Region**. Between 1980 and 1986, the total number of children under 5 in the U.S. increased by nearly 11 percent. Several states have experienced even more dramatic increases in their preschool-aged populations. The number of children under 5 increased by 55 percent in Alaska, for example, by 37 percent in Florida, and by more than 25 percent in Arizona, California, and Texas. Other states have experienced declines in this age group. The largest decline occurred in West Virginia, where there was a 16 percent decrease in the number of children under 5. Iowa, Kentucky, Indiana, and Idaho also experienced declines of 6 percent or more.

Most states experienced declines in the number of school-aged children (ages 5-17). This reduction was primarily due to the substantial downturn in births in the early 1970s. The decline in this age group was greatest in the Northeast.

Number of Children by State and Region, 1980-1986

	Number (in thousands)				Percent Change	
	1980		1986		1980-1986	
	Under 5 Years	5-17 Years	Under 5 Years	5-17 Years	Under 5 Years	5-17 Years
UNITED STATES	16,348	47,407	18,128	45,143	10.9%	-4.8%
NORTHEAST	3,103	9,980	3,353	8,731	8.1%	-12.5%
New England	756	2,525	848	2,180	12.1%	-13.6%
Maine	79	243	82	220	4.5%	-9.3%
New Hampshire	63	196	73	187	16.4%	-4.3%
Vermont	36	109	40	100	9.8%	-8.1%
Massachusetts	337	1,153	381	960	13.1%	-16.8%
Rhode Island	57	186	63	164	11.0%	-12.0%
Connecticut	185	638	209	549	13.0%	-13.9%
Middle Atlantic	2,347	7,455	2,505	6,551	6.7%	-12.1%
New York	1,136	3,552	1,230	3,145	8.0%	-11.4%
New Jersey	463	1,528	499	1,332	7.6%	-12.8%
Pennsylvania	747	2,376	776	2,074	3.9%	-12.7%
MIDWEST	4,380	12,538	4,394	11,363	.3%	-9.4%
East North Central	3,080	8,985	3,061	8,069	-.6%	-10.2%
Ohio	787	2,307	779	2,075	-1.1%	-10.1%
Indiana	419	1,200	393	1,084	-6.1%	-9.6%
Illinois	842	2,401	871	2,187	3.5%	-8.9%
Michigan	685	2,067	661	1,809	-3.5%	-12.5%
Wisconsin	347	1,011	357	914	2.9%	-9.6%
West North Central	1,300	3,553	1,334	3,294	2.6%	-7.3%
Minnesota	307	865	324	786	5.5%	-9.1%
Iowa	222	604	204	543	-8.0%	-10.1%
Missouri	354	1,008	370	939	4.5%	-6.9%
North Dakota	55	136	58	132	5.1%	-3.0%
South Dakota	58	147	60	138	1.9%	-6.2%
Nebraska	123	324	125	302	1.7%	-6.8%
Kansas	181	468	193	453	6.8%	-3.2%
SOUTH	5,542	16,096	6,318	15,930	14.0%	-1.0%
South Atlantic	2,482	7,635	2,880	7,373	16.0%	-3.4%
Delaware	41	125	45	115	9.0%	-8.4%
Maryland	272	895	323	788	18.6%	-11.9%
Dist. of Columbia	34	109	46	91	34.2%	-16.2%
Virginia	361	1,114	408	1,030	13.1%	-7.5%
West Virginia	146	414	122	388	-16.1%	-7.8%
North Carolina	404	1,254	432	1,192	6.8%	-5.0%
South Carolina	239	703	255	682	7.0%	-3.0%
Georgia	415	1,231	468	1,245	12.8%	1.1%
Florida	570	1,789	782	1,848	37.1%	3.3%

(continued)

Number of Children by State and Region, 1980-1986 (continued)

	Number (in thousands)				Percent Change	
	1980		1986		1980-1986	
	Under 5 Years	5-17 Years	Under 5 Years	5-17 Years	Under 5 Years	5-17 Years
East South Central	1,121	3,237	1,104	3,071	-1.5%	-5.1%
Kentucky	283	800	264	745	-6.8%	-6.9%
Tennessee	326	972	327	923	.4%	-5.1%
Alabama	296	866	295	820	-.4%	-5.3%
Mississippi	215	599	218	583	1.1%	-2.6%
West South Central	1,939	5,223	2,335	5,486	20.4%	5.0%
Arkansas	176	496	173	472	-1.6%	-4.8%
Louisiana	362	969	400	947	10.6%	-2.3%
Oklahoma	233	622	267	632	14.4%	1.7%
Texas	1,169	3,137	1,495	3,435	27.9%	9.5%
WEST	3,323	8,793	4,063	9,119	22.2%	3.7%
Mountain	994	2,464	1,147	2,628	15.4%	6.6%
Montana	64	167	68	163	4.9%	-2.6%
Idaho	94	213	88	223	-6.0%	4.7%
Wyoming	15	101	47	107	5.2%	6.6%
Colorado	216	592	267	599	23.2%	1.1%
New Mexico	115	303	135	309	17.4%	1.9%
Arizona	214	578	282	629	31.8%	8.9%
Utah	190	350	188	431	-1.0%	23.1%
Nevada	56	160	73	167	29.2%	4.3%
Pacific	2,329	6,328	2,916	6,491	25.2%	2.6%
Washington	306	833	339	817	10.8%	-2.0%
Oregon	198	525	192	494	-3.1%	-6.0%
California	1,708	4,681	2,235	4,874	30.8%	4.1%
Alaska	39	92	60	111	55.3%	20.7%
Hawaii	78	198	90	196	15.1%	-.9%

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, State Population and Household Estimates, with Age, Sex, and Components of Change: 1981-1986, Current Population Reports, Series P-25, No. 1010, Tables 5 and 7.

16. **Children as a Proportion of State Population**. In 1986, children under age 5 accounted for 7.5 percent of the entire U.S. population and children aged 5 to 17 accounted for an additional 19 percent. Although most states had similar proportions of children as the U.S. as a whole, a few states had larger proportions. In Utah, for example, children under 5 comprised just over 11 percent of the state population and children 5 to 17 comprised nearly 26 percent of the state population. Alaska also had a higher proportion of children than the nation as a whole. In Florida, on the other hand, despite large increases in the number of children living in the state since 1980, children represented a smaller proportion of the population than for the nation as a whole.

Proportion of State Population That Is Under 5 and 5-17 Years of Age, 1980-1986

	1980		1986	
	Under 5 Years	5-17 Years	Under 5 Years	5-17 Years
UNITED STATES (total)	7.2%	20.9%	7.5%	18.7%
NORTHEAST	6.3%	20.3%	6.7%	17.5%
New England	6.1%	20.4%	6.7%	17.1%
Maine	7.0%	21.6%	7.0%	18.8%
New Hampshire	6.8%	21.2%	7.1%	18.2%
Vermont	7.0%	21.4%	7.3%	18.6%
Massachusetts	5.9%	20.1%	6.5%	16.5%
Rhode Island	6.0%	19.7%	6.5%	16.9%
Connecticut	6.0%	20.5%	6.6%	17.2%
Middle Atlantic	6.4%	20.3%	6.7%	17.6%
New York	6.5%	20.2%	6.9%	17.7%
New Jersey	6.3%	20.7%	6.5%	17.5%
Pennsylvania	6.3%	20.0%	6.5%	17.4%
MIDWEST	7.4%	21.3%	7.4%	19.2%
East North Central	7.4%	21.6%	7.3%	19.3%
Ohio	7.3%	21.4%	7.2%	19.3%
Indiana	7.6%	21.8%	7.1%	19.7%
Illinois	7.4%	21.0%	7.5%	18.9%
Michigan	7.4%	22.3%	7.2%	19.8%
Wisconsin	7.4%	21.5%	7.5%	19.1%
West North Central	7.6%	20.7%	7.6%	18.7%
Minnesota	7.5%	21.2%	7.7%	18.6%
Iowa	7.6%	20.7%	7.2%	19.1%
Missouri	7.2%	20.5%	7.3%	18.5%
North Dakota	8.4%	20.9%	8.5%	19.5%
South Dakota	8.5%	21.3%	8.4%	19.5%
Nebraska	7.8%	20.7%	7.8%	18.9%
Kansas	7.7%	19.8%	7.9%	18.4%
SOUTH	7.4%	21.4%	7.6%	19.2%
South Atlantic	6.7%	20.7%	7.0%	18.0%
Delaware	6.9%	21.1%	7.1%	18.2%
Maryland	6.5%	21.2%	7.2%	17.7%
Dist. of Columbia	5.4%	17.1%	7.4%	14.6%
Virginia	6.7%	20.8%	7.0%	17.8%
West Virginia	7.5%	21.2%	6.4%	19.9%
North Carolina	6.9%	21.3%	6.8%	18.8%
South Carolina	7.6%	22.5%	7.6%	20.2%
Georgia	7.6%	22.5%	7.7%	20.4%
Florida	5.9%	18.4%	6.7%	15.8%

(continued)

Proportion of State Population That Is Under 5 and 5-17 Years of Age, 1980-1986 (continued)

	1980		1986	
	Under 5 Years	5-17 Years	Under 5 Years	5-17 Years
East South Central	7.6%	22.1%	7.3%	20.2%
Kentucky	7.7%	21.9%	7.1%	20.0%
Tennessee	7.1%	21.2%	6.8%	19.2%
Alabama	7.6%	22.2%	7.3%	20.2%
Mississippi	8.5%	23.8%	8.3%	22.2%
West South Central	8.2%	22.0%	8.7%	20.4%
Arkansas	7.7%	21.7%	7.3%	19.9%
Louisiana	8.6%	23.0%	8.9%	21.0%
Oklahoma	7.7%	20.5%	8.1%	19.1%
Texas	8.2%	22.0%	9.0%	20.6%
WEST	7.7%	20.4%	8.3%	18.7%
Mountain	8.7%	21.7%	8.8%	20.2%
Montana	8.2%	21.3%	8.3%	19.9%
Idaho	9.9%	22.6%	8.8%	22.3%
Wyoming	9.6%	21.4%	9.3%	21.2%
Colorado	7.5%	20.5%	8.2%	19.3%
New Mexico	8.8%	23.3%	9.1%	20.9%
Arizona	7.9%	21.2%	8.5%	19.0%
Utah	13.0%	24.0%	11.3%	25.9%
Nevada	7.0%	19.9%	7.5%	17.3%
Pacific	7.3%	19.9%	8.2%	18.2%
Washington	7.4%	20.2%	7.6%	18.3%
Oregon	7.5%	19.9%	7.1%	18.3%
California	7.2%	19.8%	8.3%	18.1%
Alaska	9.7%	22.8%	11.3%	20.8%
Hawaii	8.1%	20.5%	8.4%	18.4%

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, State Population and Household Estimates, with Age, Sex, and Components of Change: 1981-1986, Current Population Reports, Series P-25, No. 1010, Table 8.

17. **Immigrant Children**. In 1987, over 170,000 young people under the age of 20 legally immigrated to the United States. Some of these youths immigrated with their families; others were orphans being adopted by U.S. citizens; and others were joining family members already living in the United States. Nearly a fifth of these young people were children under 5 years of age, and one-third were adolescents aged 15-19. The primary regions of origin were Asia and North America. The countries within these regions contributing the most immigrants were Mexico, the Philippines, Korea, the Dominican Republic, and Jamaica.

Number of Immigrant Children Admitted to the U.S., by Age of Child and Region and Selected Countries of Origin, Fiscal Year 1987

	Age of Child				
	0-19 years	Under 5 years	5-9 years	10-14 years	15-19 years
Number	171,612	32,733	37,501	43,939	57,439
Percent of total immigrant population, 1987	28.5%	5.4%	6.2%	7.3%	9.5%
Percent of immigrant population under age 20	100.0%	19.1%	21.9%	25.6%	33.5%
Immigrants per 1,000 U.S. population in age group	2.42	1.79	2.12	2.67	3.11
Region & Selected Countries of Origin					
Asia	**77,026**	**17,642**	**16,974**	**18,329**	**24,081**
Cambodia	4,690	144	1,031	1,447	2,068
Mainland China	4,854	375	1,004	1,615	1,860
India	5,981	1,742	1,360	1,243	1,636
Korea	13,791	6,665	2,183	2,137	2,806
Philippines	14,388	2,630	3,093	3,752	4,913
Thailand	4,291	2,021	1,808	207	255
Vietnam	9,609	515	1,851	2,877	4,366
North America	**63,079**	**8,791**	**12,750**	**17,685**	**23,853**
Canada	3,509	824	1,001	821	863
Mexico	17,911	3,485	2,829	4,660	6,937
Caribbean	31,880	3,168	6,635	9,214	12,863
Cuba	3,826	15	328	783	2,700
Dominican Republic	11,223	1,307	2,383	3,205	4,328
Haiti	3,670	281	938	1,233	1,218
Jamaica	9,358	1,061	2,138	2,883	3,276
Europe	**13,996**	**2,744**	**3,635**	**3,337**	**4,280**
West Germany	1,711	482	354	251	624
Poland	1,616	198	530	505	383
Portugal	1,268	250	315	295	408
United Kingdom	3,471	655	890	857	1,069
South America	**13,539**	**2,818**	**3,220**	**3,512**	**3,989**
Colombia	3,482	1,000	832	750	900
Guyana	4,274	459	1,058	1,317	1,440
Central America	**9,768**	**1,311**	**2,282**	**2,988**	**3,187**
El Salvador	3,571	280	819	1,234	1,238
Guatemala	1,914	410	400	525	579
Africa	**2,894**	**530**	**643**	**791**	**930**
Egypt	444	137	115	84	108
South Africa	529	123	122	154	130
Oceania	**1,076**	**208**	**278**	**285**	**305**
Australia	252	67	67	61	57
Fiji	438	84	119	120	115

Note: An immigrant is an alien admitted to the United States as a lawful permanent resident.

Source: Unpublished tables provided by the U.S. Department of Justice, Immigration and Naturalization Service; and U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, United States Population Estimates by Age, Sex, and Race: 1980 to 1987, Series P-25, No. 1022, Table II.

18. **Foreign-Born Child Population**. The 1980 census counted over 2 million foreign-born youth under the age of 20. This figure includes foreign students temporarily living in the United States. Nearly 1.7 million youth had been legally admitted to the United States as permanent residents between 1970 and 1980. Approximately 221,000 of these young immigrants were children under 5. The primary regions of origin for these immigrants were Asia and North and Central America.

Foreign-Born Child Population Residing in the United States, by Age and Region of Origin, 1980

	0-19	Under 5 Years	5-9 Years	10-14 Years	15-19 Years
TOTAL	2,118,066	220,847	436,890	587,394	872,935
Naturalized	558,134	58,934	102,735	151,390	245,075
Not a citizen	1,559,932	161,913	334,155	436,004	627,860
Foreign-born as percentage of U.S. population in age group					
TOTAL	2.92%	1.36%	2.62%	3.21%	4.12%
Naturalized	.77%	.36%	.62%	.83%	1.16%
Not a citizen	2.15%	.99%	2.01%	2.38%	2.96%
Region of origin of foreign-born who immigrated between 1970 and 1980					
TOTAL	1,688,157	220,847	436,890	466,536	563,884
North and Central America	716,079	78,895	167,614	197,531	272,039
Asia	506,509	67,105	144,824	144,893	149,687
Europe	195,428	25,883	50,995	59,311	59,239
South America	89,646	11,243	18,349	25,939	34,115
Africa	27,543	4,551	7,461	7,289	8,242
All other countries	152,952	33,170	47,647	31,573	40,562

Note: Naturalization is the conferring, by any means, of citizenship upon a person after birth. An immigrant is an alien admitted to the United States as a lawful permanent resident. The foreign-born population counted in the 1980 census include nonimmigrants as well as immigrants. A nonimmigrant is an alien who seeks temporary entry to the United States for a specific purpose. The alien must have a permanent residence abroad and qualify for the nonimmigrant classification sought. Among the nonimmigrant classifications are foreign government officials and their children, visitors for business and for pleasure, students, exchange visitors, and temporary workers and trainees.

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 1980 Census of the Population, Vol. 1, Characteristics of the Population, Detailed Population Characteristics, Part 1, U.S. Summary, Chapter D, Section A, U.S. Tables 253 and 255, March 1984.

FAMILY ENVIRONMENT

19. **Family Living Arrangements of Children**. As of 1988, 38 million of the 63 million children in the U.S. -- about 60 percent -- were living with both their biological mothers and biological fathers present in the home. More than 15 million, or nearly a quarter, were living in single-parent families: 13.5 million with their mothers and 1.8 million with their fathers. Almost 7 million, or more than one in ten, were living with a biological parent and a stepparent. Another 3 million, or about one in 20, did not live with either biological parent, but with adoptive parents, grandparents or other relatives, foster parents, or in group quarters.

Since 1981, the proportion of children living with both biological parents has declined from 67 percent to 60 percent in 1988. During this same time period, the number of children living only with their mother grew from 11.6 million, or 18 percent, to 13.5 million, or 21 percent. The number of children living only with their father doubled in this period, but the proportion still remains low, at about 3 percent.

Distribution of U.S. Children Under 18 by Family Living Arrangements, 1981 and 1988

	Number				Percent			
Child lives with:	1981		1988		1981		1988	
Both biological parents	42.6 mil		38.0 mil		67%		60%	
Mother only	11.6	12.5	13.5	15.3	18%	20%	21%	24%
Father only	.9		1.8		2%		3%	
Mother-stepfather	4.5	5.5	5.1	6.9	7%	9%	8%	11%
Father-stepmother	1.0		1.8		2%		3%	
Adoptive parents	1.1		1.1		2%		2%	
Grandparents or other relatives	.9		1.5		2%		2%	
Foster parents, other non-relatives, or in group quarters	.5		.4		1%		1%	
TOTAL	63.1 mil		63.2 mil		100%		100%	

Note: Percent distribution may total slightly more than 100 due to rounding.

Source: Data for 1981 are tabulations by Child Trends, Inc., from the Child Health Supplement to the 1981 National Health Interview Survey. See: Zill, N. Behavior, Achievement, and Health Problems Among Children in Stepfamilies: Findings From a National Survey of Child Health. In: E. Mavis Hetherington and J. Arasteh (Eds.), The Impact of Divorce, Single Parenting, and Step-Parenting on Children, 1988, Table 16.1. For 1988, numbers and proportions of children living with mothers only, fathers only, relatives, and non-relatives from U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, Series P-20, No. 433, Marital Status and Living Arrangements: March 1988, Table 4; and numbers and proportions living with step- and adoptive parents estimated by Child Trends, Inc., from the Child Health Supplement to the 1981 National Health Interview Survey and other recent surveys.

20. **Parents in Household**. In 1960, about 88 percent of U.S. children under 18 were living in two-parent families (including those with step- and adoptive parents), and less than 10 percent were living in single-parent families. By 1988, the proportion living with two parents had declined to 73 percent, while the proportion in single-parent families had climbed to nearly one-quarter.

Although increases in divorce and unmarried childbearing have occurred in all ethnic groups, black and Hispanic children are more likely than non-minority children to be living in single-parent families. As of 1988, the proportion living with their mothers only was 51 percent among black children, 27 percent among Hispanic children, and 16 percent among white children.

Percent Distribution of U.S. Children by Presence of Parents in Household, 1960-1988

	1960	1970	1980	1985	1987	1988
All children under 18						
Two parents	87.7%	85.2%	76.7%	73.9%	73.1%	72.7%
Mother only	8.0%	10.8%	18.0%	20.9%	21.3%	21.4%
Father only	1.1%	1.1%	1.7%	2.5%	2.6%	2.9%
Neither parent	3.2%	2.9%	3.6%	2.7%	2.8%	3.0%
White children						
Two parents	90.9%	89.5%	82.7%	80.0%	79.1%	78.9%
Mother only	6.1%	7.8%	13.5%	15.6%	16.1%	16.0%
Father only	1.0%	.9%	1.6%	2.4%	2.6%	2.9%
Neither parent	1.9%	1.8%	2.2%	2.0%	2.1%	2.2%
Black children						
Two parents	67.0%	58.5%	42.2%	39.5%	40.1%	38.6%
Mother only	19.9%	29.5%	43.9%	51.0%	50.4%	51.1%
Father only	2.0%	2.3%	1.9%	2.9%	2.5%	3.0%
Neither parent	11.1%	9.7%	12.0%	6.6%	6.8%	7.4%
Hispanic children						
Two parents	na	77.7%	75.4%	67.9%	65.5%	66.3%
Mother only	na	na	19.6%	26.6%	27.7%	27.2%
Father only	na	na	1.5%	2.2%	2.8%	3.0%
Neither parent	na	na	3.5%	3.3%	3.7%	3.6%

Note: Children living with two parents include those living with a parent and stepparent and those living with adoptive parents. Children living with neither parent include those living with relatives other than their parents, with non-relatives, or in group quarters. The small number of persons under 18 maintaining their own households are not included.

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Statistical Abstract of the United States, 1988, Table 69; Current Population Reports, Series P-20, Nos. 410, 418, 423, 433, Marital Status and Living Arrangements: March 1985, March 1986, March 1987, March 1988, Table 4 in each report and Table E in 1986 report.

21. **Children Living with Their Mothers Only**. The number of children living with their mothers only increased from 7.5 million in 1970 to 13.5 million in 1988. The increase has been due to increases in marital disruption and births to unmarried women. The number of children living with divorced mothers more than doubled between 1970 and 1986, but has declined slightly since then. The number living with separated mothers has levelled off since 1985. The number living with unmarried mothers increased by a factor of six between 1970 and 1985, and has continued to grow since then, but at a slower pace. The number of children living with widowed mothers has fallen by nearly 40 percent since 1970.

Number of Children Under 18 Living With Their Mothers Only, 1970-1988

(in millions)

Child lives with mother who is:	1970	1980	1985	1986	1987	1988	Percent Change 1970-88
Divorced	2.3	4.8	5.3	5.4	5.3	5.0	+119%
Separated	2.3	3.0	3.0	2.9	2.9	2.9	+24%
Never married	.6	1.8	3.5	3.6	4.0	4.3	+678%
Widowed	1.4	1.3	.9	.9	.8	.8	-39%
Total children living with mother only	7.5	11.4	13.1	13.2	13.4	13.5	+81%

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, Series P-20, Nos. 410, 418, 423, and 433, Marital Status and Living Arrangements: March 1985, March 1986, March 1987, March 1988, Table 5 in each report. Also, Statistical Abstract of the United States: 1988, Table 69.

22. **Children Living with Their Fathers Only**. The number of children living with their fathers only increased from 748,000 in 1970 to 1.8 million in 1988. Although children are still far more likely to live with their mothers after a divorce or birth outside of marriage, the number living with divorced fathers has nearly quadrupled since 1970, and the number living with unmarried fathers has jumped by a factor of 11.

Number of Children Under 18 Living With Their Fathers Only, 1970-1988

(in thousands)

Child lives with father who is:	1970	1980	1985	1986	1987	1988	Percent Change 1970-88
Divorced	177	526	750	796	814	861	+386%
Separated	152	246	329	289	392	389	+156%
Never married	30	78	260	318	310	371	+1,137%
Widowed	254	180	162	145	95	132	-48%
Total children living with father only	748	1,078	1,554	1,579	1,651	1,808	+142%

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, Series P-20, Nos. 410, 418, 423, and 433, Marital Status and Living Arrangements: March 1985, March 1986, March 1987, March 1988, Table 5 in each report. Also, Statistical Abstract of the United States: 1988, Table 69.

23. **Children Experiencing Parents' Divorce**. Nearly half of all marriages today end in divorce, and more than a million children per year -- nearly 2 percent of all children -- see their parents get divorced. Between 1960 and 1975, both the number of divorces and the number of children whose parents were divorced each year more than doubled, going from less than a half-million to more than a million per year. The peak was reached in 1979, when 1,181,000 children experienced marital disruption. Divorce rates have stabilized since the late 1970s, but at very high levels.

Number of Children Involved in Divorce: United States, 1960-1985

	1960	1970	1975	1980	1985	1986
Number of divorces and annulments (thousands)	393	708	1,036	1,189	1,190	1,178
Number of children involved (thousands)	463	870	1,123	1,174	1,091	1,064
Percent of all children under 18 years of age	0.72%	1.25%	1.67%	1.73%	1.73%	1.68%
Average number of children per decree	1.18	1.22	1.08	.98	.92	0.90

Source: National Center for Health Statistics, Advance Report of Final Divorce Statistics, 1986, Monthly Vital Statistics Report, Vol. 38, No. 2, Supplement, June 6, 1989.

24. **Children Per Family**. The proportion of families with 4 or more children has fallen from 10 percent of all families in 1960 to 3 percent of families in 1987. Over the same period, the proportion of families with no children has increased from 43 percent to 51 percent, and the proportion with one or two children has risen from 36 percent to 40 per cent. Family size has declined among black and Hispanic families as well as white families, but minority families remain larger than non-minority families. As of 1987, nearly two-thirds of Hispanic families, almost 60 percent of black families, but less than half of white families, had children under 18.

Distribution of Families by Number of Own Children under 18 Years of Age, 1960-1987

	1960	1970	1975	1980	1985	1986	1987
All families							
Number (in millions)	45.1	51.6	55.7	59.6	62.7	63.6	64.5
Percent with:							
No own children	43%	44%	46%	48%	50%	50%	51%
One child	18%	18%	20%	21%	21%	21%	21%
2 children	18%	17%	18%	19%	19%	19%	19%
3 children	11%	11%	9%	8%	7%	7%	7%
4 or more children	10%	10%	7%	4%	3%	3%	3%
White families							
Number (in millions)	40.9	46.3	49.5	52.2	54.4	55.0	55.7
Percent with:							
No own children	43%	45%	47%	49%	52%	52%	52%
One child	19%	18%	19%	21%	21%	21%	21%
2 children	19%	18%	18%	19%	18%	18%	18%
3 children	11%	11%	9%	8%	7%	7%	7%
4 or more children	9%	9%	6%	4%	3%	2%	2%
Black families							
Number (in millions)	4.3	4.9	5.5	6.2	6.8	6.9	7.1
Percent with:							
No own children	44%	39%	37%	38%	43%	41%	41%
One child	16%	18%	22%	23%	23%	23%	25%
2 children	13%	15%	17%	20%	20%	20%	20%
3 children	10%	10%	11%	11%	9%	10%	9%
4 or more children	18%	18%	14%	8%	6%	6%	6%
Hispanic families							
Number (in millions)	NA	2.0	2.4	3.0	3.9	4.2	4.4
Percent with:							
No own children	NA	30%	29%	31%	34%	35%	35%
One child	NA	20%	23%	22%	23%	22%	22%
2 children	NA	19%	20%	23%	22%	24%	23%
3 children	NA	13%	13%	13%	12%	12%	13%
4 or more children	NA	18%	15%	10%	9%	7%	6%

Note: The number of families with "own children" is slightly lower than the number with "related children," which include those caring for grandchildren, nephews, nieces, and cousins. The figures represent a cross-section of families at a given point in time and not the number of children families will ultimately have. For example, whereas 51 percent of families had no children in 1987, many of these families previously had or subsequently will have one or more children. The 1960 data for blacks include other races as well; the majority are black. Persons of Hispanic origin may be of any race.

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Statistical Abstract of the United States, 1982-83, Table 70; 1986, Table 64; 1988, Table 67; Current Population Reports, Series P-20, No. 424, Household and Family Characteristics: March 1987, Table 1.

25. **Education of Parents**. Today's children are more likely than past generations of children to have parents who graduated from high school. The overall proportion of U.S. elementary school students whose parents were high school graduates or more rose from 62 percent in 1970 to 80 percent in 1988. Among black elementary students, the proportion with high school graduate parents nearly doubled, going from 36 percent in 1970 to 69 percent in 1988. The educational levels of black parents still lag behind those of white parents, however, and increases among blacks appear to be levelling off.

Among Hispanic students, parent education levels also increased significantly during the 1980s. As of 1988, however, less than half of Hispanic elementary pupils -- 46 percent -- had parents who were high school graduates.

Percentage of School-Aged Children Whose Parent Had 12 or More Years of Education, By Child's School Level, 1970-1988

Total

Child's School Level	1970	1979	1985	1987	1988
Elementary	62%	71%	78%	79%	80%
High School	59%	70%	76%	78%	78%

Whites

	1970	1979	1985	1987	1988
Elementary	66%	75%	80%	81%	82%
High School	63%	74%	78%	80%	80%

Blacks

	1970	1979	1985	1987	1988
Elementary	36%	51%	67%	70%	69%
High School	30%	45%	63%	67%	66%

Hispanics

	1970	1979	1985	1987	1988
Elementary	na	na	41%	45%	46%
High School	na	na	41%	41%	42%

Note: The low levels of education among Hispanic parents are partly due to the fact that many of them are recent immigrants from countries where educational opportunities are more limited than those in the U.S.

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, Series P-20, Nos. 410, 423, 433, Marital Status and Living Arrangements: March 1985, March 1987, March 1988, Table 9 in each report; 1979 data from U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, Series P-20, No. 360, Social and Economic Characteristics of Students, Table 11; 1970 data from U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, Series P-20, No. 222, School Enrollment: October 1970, Table 12. Data on Hispanic students not available for earlier years.

26. **Children with Adult Relatives or Non-Relatives in Household**. As of 1988, 18 percent of U.S. children who lived with one or both parents had a grandparent, older sibling, or other adult relative in the household as well. Four percent had an adult non-relative in the household, such as an unmarried partner of a single parent, or a live-in housekeeper or nanny. By contrast, one in four black and Hispanic children had another adult relative living in their household.

Children in single-parent families, especially children under 6, are more likely than those in married-couple families to have other adults in the household. Only in single-father families does the proportion of children under 6 who are living with adult non-relatives reach a majority, however.

Proportion of Children Living With One or Both Parents Who Have Other Adult Relatives or Non-Relatives in the Household as Well, By Family Type, Age of Child, and Race/Hispanic Origin, 1988

	Grandparent, Older Sibling, or Other Adult Relative	Unmarried Partner, House-keeper or Other Non-relative	Parent(s) Only
All children who live with one or both parents			
Children under 18	18%	4%	79%
Type of family:			
Married-couple	15%	1%	85%
Mother-only	27	12	62
Father-only	26	30	49
Children under 6	12%	5%	83%
Type of family:			
Married-couple	7%	1%	93%
Mother-only	31	15	55
Father-only	23	50	34
Black children who live with one or both parents			
Children under 18	26%	6%	69%
Type of family:			
Married-couple	17%	1%	83%
Mother-only	33	8	60
Father-only	24	37	45
Children under 6	27%	8%	67%
Type of family:			
Married-couple	8%	1%	92%
Mother-only	40	10	52
Father-only	24	54	30
Hispanic children who live with one or both parents			
Children under 18	24%	5%	72%
Type of family:			
Married-couple	21%	2%	78%
Mother-only	30	9	62
Father-only	26	42	36
Children under 6	19%	6%	75%
Type of family:			
Married-couple	14%	2%	84%
Mother-only	31	11	60
Father-only	27	57	22

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, Series P-20, No. 433, Marital Status and Living Arrangements: March 1988, Table 9.

27. **Children Living Away From [illegible]** 2 million children under the age of 18, or 3.2 [illegible] from their parents. Black children are much more likely than whites or Hispanics to be living away from parents. Nearly one black child in 13 lived with neither mother nor father in 1988.

Younger children (under age 15) who are living away from their parents are likely to be living in such arrangements as relatives' homes, foster homes, non-family households, and group quarters. Older children, in addition to living in these type of arrangements, are also beginning to establish their own households. As a result, the proportion of older children living away from parents is more than twice the proportion for younger children.

Number and Percent of Children Under Age 18 Living Away From Their Parents, By Age, Sex, and Race, 1982-1988

Living Away From Parents	1982	1985	1987	1988
Number (thousands)	2,035	1,789	1,974	2,039
Percent				
All Children Under 18	3.2%	2.9%	3.1%	3.2%
Age and Sex				
Under 15	2.8%	2.3%	2.6%	2.7%
Male	2.8%	2.4%	2.5%	2.8%
Female	2.8%	2.3%	2.7%	2.6%
15-17	5.3%	5.2%	5.7%	5.7%
Male	4.3%	4.7%	4.9%	5.0%
Female	6.4%	5.8%	6.5%	6.4%
Race/Hispanic Origin				
White	2.2%	2.1%	2.4%	2.4%
Black	8.4%	6.7%	7.2%	7.4%
Hispanic	4.5%	3.6%	4.3%	3.8%

Note: Children who live away from their parents include all persons under 18 who do not live with one or both parents (a parent can be either a natural or an adoptive parent) and all persons under 18 who have formed families or unrelated subfamilies of their own. Examples include those living with relatives other than their parents, those living in foster homes, those who have established households of their own, those living in dorms or other group quarters, and those living in households with unrelated roommates. Those who are married or have children are included unless they form a subfamily that is related to the householder, in which case the householder will usually be a parent of the individual.

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, Series P-20, Nos. 380, 410, 423, and 433, Marital Status and Living Arrangements, March 1982, 1985, 1987, and 1988, Tables 2 and 3.

28. **Foster/Substitute Care**. Over a quarter of a million children were in foster/substitute care during 1986. Turnover in such care is high: nearly equal numbers, about 180,000, entered and left care during the year; and the median length of time in foster/substitute care was 17 months. Foster care children are disproportionately black; they are distributed throughout the range of ages, but tend especially to be in their adolescent years. The numbers of children awaiting adoption, in non-finalized adoptive homes, and completing adoption during the year are roughly equal. Adopted children and those about to be adopted are disproportionately young -- about half are under 6 years of age. Those awaiting adoption tend to be somewhat older.

National Estimates of Children in State Foster/Substitute Care and Adoption Systems, FY 1982-1986

	Substitute Care			Adoption		
	Entering During Year	In Care At End of Year	Leaving During Year	Waiting to Be Adopted	Non-Final Adoption	Adopted During Year[1]
	Number of Children[2] (in thousands)					
1982	161	262	172	na	na	na
1983	184	269	178	na	na	na
1984	184	270	186	15-17	16-18	19-21
1985	190	276	184	na	na	na
1986	183	280	176	19-20	14-15	16-17
	Characteristics of Children (FY 1986)					
Race/Ethnicity						
White	56%	51%	58%	51%	52%	59%
Black	26	35	26	42	37	27
Hispanic	9	8	8	3	6	8
Other minority	5	5	5	3	3	5
Unknown	4	2	3	1	2	1
Number of states reporting race	33	42	33	27	26	30
% of children represented by reporting states	81%	89%	80%	56-59%	58-63%	66-70%
Age						
< 1 year	10%	4%	5%	4%	7%	7%
1-5 years	25	23	23	26	41	47
6-12 years	26	29	23	45	40	36
13-18 years	38	40	44	25	12	11
19 years	1	3	4	1	0	0
Median age	10 yrs	12 yrs	13 yrs	9 yrs	6 yrs	6 yrs
Number of states reporting age	32	33	30	24	21	25
% of all children represented by reporting states	80%	75%	75%	41-43%	45-48%	55-59%

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1 Data on the number of children adopted cover only those children adopted through state systems. They exclude children solely the responsibility of private agencies or placed independently.
2 Total numbers are estimates derived from the 1986 VCIS Substitute Care Population, which is used for reports to Congress under PL 96-272, the Adoption Assistance and Child Welfare Act of 1980. Ethnic and age breakdowns are calculated from unweighted numbers of children in each category in the reporting states.

Source: "VCIS Research Notes," No. 1, and unpublished analyses of FY 1986 child welfare data from the Voluntary Cooperative Information Systems (VCIS) of the American Public Welfare Association (APWA).

PARENTAL EMPLOYMENT

and

CHILD CARE

29. **Distribution of Children by Presence and Employment Status of Each Parent**. The most common family arrangement for children today is to be living with two parents, both of whom are in the labor force. Just over 26 million children, or 42 percent of all children under 18, were in this situation as of 1986. About 18 million children, or 29 percent, were in two-parent, "breadwinner-homemaker" families. Nearly 10 million more -- 15 percent -- were in single-parent families where the lone mother or father was in the labor force. Another 5 million -- 8 percent -- were in single-parent families where the lone parent was not in the labor force.

Number and Percentage of U.S. Children By the Number of Parents in Household and Employment Status of Parent, 1986

Presence and Employment Status of Parents	Number of Children (in millions)	Percent
Two Parents in Household:		
- Both in labor force	26.3	42%
- Both employed	23.4	37%
- One or both unemployed	2.8	5%
- Father in labor force, mother not	17.9	29%
- Mother in labor force, father not	.9	2%
- Neither in labor force	1.2	2%
Single Parent in Household:		
- In labor force	9.7	15%
- Employed	8.2	13%
- Unemployed	1.4	2%
- Not in labor force	5.1	8%
Neither Parent in Household	1.9	3%
TOTAL	63.0	100%

Note: For definition of "neither parent in household," see note to Table 27.

Source: Child Trends, Inc., special tabulations of the March 1986 Current Population Survey. Programming support provided by the Scientific Applications Programming Staff, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 1988.

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30. **Children with Mothers in the Labor Force**. As of March 1988, 11 million U.S. children under the age of 6 -- about 51 percent of all children under 6 -- had mothers who were in the labor force. More than 3 million of these children were infants or 1-year-olds. Nearly half of all infants and toddlers had mothers in the labor force. Among children of elementary- or junior-high school ages, 17 million, or 63 percent, had mothers in the labor force. All told, there were nearly 38 million children under the age of 18 -- 60 percent -- whose mothers were working or actively looking for work outside the home in 1988.

Number and Proportion of Children With Mothers in the Labor Force, 1988

Age Group	Number	Percentage*
Infants and 1-year-olds	3.6 million	48%
Two-year-olds	1.9 "	53%
Three-year-olds	1.9 "	52%
Four-year-olds	1.9 "	54%
Five-year-olds	1.9 "	53%
Total Under 6 years	11.3 million	51%
Ages 6-13 years	17.1 "	63%
Ages 14-17 years	9.5 "	68%
Total 6-17 years	26.6 million	64%
Total Under 18 years	37.9 million	60%

*of all children in age group

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, unpublished tables on "Marital and Family Characteristics of the Labor Force from the March 1988 Current Population Survey," September 1988.

31. **Trends in Proportion of Children with Mothers in the Labor Force**. The proportion of children with mothers in the labor force has increased dramatically over the last two decades. For children under 6, the proportion has increased by nearly 80 percent since 1970, from 29 percent to 51 percent. For school-aged children, the proportion with working mothers has increased by nearly half, from 43 percent to 64 percent. For all children under 18, the proportion increased by more than half between 1970 and 1988, from 39 percent to 60 percent.

Percentage of Children with Mothers
in the Labor Force, 1970-1988

Age Group	1970	1975	1980	1985	1986	1987	1988	Percent Change, 1970-88
0-5 years	29%	36%	43%	49%	50%	53%	51%	77%
6-17 years	43%	47%	57%	62%	62%	64%	64%	50%
Under 18	39%	44%	53%	58%	58%	60%	60%	54%

Note: "Children" refers to unmarried children living with one or both parents in households maintained by the parent(s).

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, News Release USDL 87-345, earlier annual releases, and unpublished tables on "Marital and Family Characteristics of the Labor Force from the March 1988 Current Population Survey," September 1988.

32. **Employment of Married Mothers**. As of 1988, over half of all married mothers with infant children 1 year old or under were working or looking for work. In 1975, the comparable proportion was 31 percent, and in 1970, only 24 percent. By the time their youngest child is 2 years of age, about 60 percent of today's married mothers are in the work force.

Percentage of Married Mothers
(of Children Under 18)
Who Were in the Labor Force, 1970-1988

Age of Youngest Child	1970	1975	1980	1985	1986	1988
1 year or under	24%	31%	39%	49%	50%	52%
2 years	31%	37%	48%	54%	54%	62%
3 years	35%	41%	52%	55%	56%	59%
4 years	39%	41%	51%	60%	57%	61%
5 years	37%	44%	52%	62%	64%	64%
Under 6 years, total	30%	37%	45%	54%	54%	57%
6-17 Years, total	49%	52%	62%	68%	69%	73%
Total with Children Under 18	40%	45%	54%	61%	61%	65%

Note: Data are for March of each year. Married mothers are currently married women with children under 18 and husbands present in the household. Children are defined as "own" children of the householders, which includes step- and adopted children, but excludes nieces, nephews, grandchildren or foster children. The labor force comprises all persons classified as employed or unemployed. This table is parent-based, whereas other tables in this report on the same topic are child-based.

Source: Hayghe, Howard. "Rise in mothers' labor force activity includes those with infants." *Monthly Labor Review*, Vol. 109, No. 2, pp. 43-45, February 1986, Table 3, p. 45, and unpublished data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, 1989.

33. **Employment of Married and Single-Parent Mothers.** White married mothers with school-aged children are less likely to be working outside the home than white single-parent mothers. For black women, the reverse is true. Married mothers of infants, both black and white, are more likely to be working than single mothers of infants. The labor force participation rates of black married mothers are considerably higher than those of white married mothers, especially at the preschool ages. Among single-parent mothers, on the other hand, black women are generally less likely than white women to be in the labor force.

Percentage of Mothers of Children Under 18 Who Were in the Labor Force, March 1988

Married Mothers with Husbands Present

	Total	White	Black
Age of Youngest Child			
1 year or under	52%	51%	72%
2 years	62%	60%	76%
3 years	59%	58%	76%
4 years	61%	61%	70%
5 years	64%	64%	63%
Under 6 years, total	57%	56%	73%
6-17 years, total	73%	72%	79%
Total with Children Under 18	65%	64%	76%

Women Maintaining Families on Their Own

	Total	White	Black
Age of Youngest Child			
1 year or under	45%	44%	47%
2 years	53%	59%	43%
3 years	59%	61%	57%
4 years	61%	66%	57%
5 years	64%	66%	59%
Under 6 Years, Total	54%	57%	51%
6-17 Years, Total	76%	78%	70%
Total with Children Under 18	67%	70%	62%

Source: Unpublished data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, 1989.

34. **Trends in Full-Time and Part-Time Employment of Mothers**. The overall proportion of mothers working full-time grew by more than half between 1975 and 1988, rising from 29 to 44 percent. The greatest growth in the percent employed full-time has been among women whose youngest child is under 3. This proportion rose by two-thirds, from 19 percent to 32 percent. Mothers with children in this age group also showed a two-thirds rise in part-time employment, from 9 percent to 15 percent.

Among those with children aged 3-5, full-time employment grew by nearly half and part-time employment increased by 42 percent. Among mothers of school-aged children, full-time employment increased by more than half, whereas part-time employment remained essentially unchanged.

For all children, the proportion of mothers not in the labor force declined by 34 percent between 1970 and 1988.

Proportion of Mothers Working Full-Time, Part-Time, and Not In Labor Force, by Age of Youngest Child, 1975-1988

	Working Full-Time					Percent Change, 1970-88
	1975	1980	1985	1986	1988	
All mothers with children under 18	29%	37%	40%	41%	44%	52%
Age of Youngest Child						
Under 3 years old	19%	24%	29%	30%	32%	68%
3 - 5 years old	27%	35%	37%	39%	40%	48%
6 - 17 years old	34%	44%	48%	48%	52%	53%

	Working Part-Time					Percent Change, 1970-88
	1975	1980	1985	1986	1988	
All mothers with children under 18	14%	15%	16%	16%	16%	14%
Age of Youngest Child						
Under 3 years old	9%	13%	15%	15%	15%	67%
3 - 5 years old	12%	15%	16%	15%	17%	42%
6 - 17 years old	16%	16%	17%	18%	17%	6%

	Not in Labor Force					Percent Change, 1970-88
	1975	1980	1985	1986	1988	
All mothers with children under 18	53%	43%	38%	37%	35%	-34%
Age of Youngest Child						
Under 3 years old	66%	58%	50%	49%	48%	-27%
3 - 5 years old	55%	46%	40%	40%	39%	-29%
6 - 17 years old	45%	36%	30%	30%	27%	-40%

Note: "Mothers" refers to women living with their own unmarried children, one or more of whom are under 18 years of age.

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, unpublished tables on "Marital and Family Characteristics of the Labor Force from the March 1988 Current Population Survey," September 1988, and earlier unpublished data.

35. **Children Whose Mothers Work Full-Time Full-Year**. The proportion of children with mothers who work full-time throughout the year has nearly doubled since 1971. For children under 6 with married mothers, the proportion has more than doubled. Despite these dramatic increases, it is still only a minority of children -- 30 percent of all children under 18 and 23 percent of children under 6 in 1987 -- whose mothers work full-time, full-year. A larger proportion -- 36 percent of those under 18 and 38 percent of those under 6 -- have mothers who work part-time or for part of the year only.

Proportions of Children Whose Mothers Worked Full-Time Full-Year, Part-Time or Part-Year, or Did Not Work During Year, By Age and Family Type, 1971 and 1987

Work Experience of Mother in Year and Age of Children	All Children Living With Their Mothers		Children in Married Couple Families		Children in Mother Only Families	
	1971	1987	1971	1987	1971	1987
Children Under 18 Years						
Mother Worked Full-Time Full-Year	17%	30%	15%	30%	27%	33%
Mother Worked Part-Time or Part-Year	32%	36%	32%	38%	31%	29%
Mother Did Not Work During Year	51%	33%	53%	32%	42%	38%
	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Children Under 6 Years						
Mother Worked Full-Time Full-Year	9%	23%	9%	23%	15%	21%
Mother Worked Part-Time or Part-Year	31%	38%	31%	40%	35%	31%
Mother Did Not Work During Year	59%	40%	61%	37%	50%	48%
	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Children 6-17 Years						
Mother Worked Full-Time Full-Year	20%	35%	18%	34%	31%	38%
Mother Worked Part-Time or Part-Year	32%	35%	33%	37%	30%	29%
Mother Did Not Work During Year	48%	30%	50%	29%	39%	33%
	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Note: "Part-time or part-year" includes part-time full-year, full-time part-year, and part-time part-year work. Families and children as of March 1972 and March 1988.

Source: Child Trends, Inc. Calculated from U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, Series P-20, No. 86, Characteristics of the Low-Income Population: 1971, Table 31, and Series P-60, No. 163, Poverty in the United States: 1987, Table 24 (unpublished corrected version).

36. **Maternal Employment Patterns by Age of Children, Race and Family Type, and Poverty Status**. Mothers of older children are more likely to work full-time. In 1987, the proportion of children with mothers who worked full-time, full-year ranged from 20 percent for those under 3 years of age to 41 percent of those aged 15-17. Conversely, the proportion with mothers who did not work at all in the course of the year varied from 40 percent for children under 3 to 26 percent for those aged 15-17.

Black children in two-parent families had a relatively high proportion of mothers working full-time, full-year (44 percent), and a relatively low proportion who did not work at all (27 percent). On the other hand, among black children in mother-only families, relatively few had mothers working year round (25 percent) and nearly half (48 percent) had mothers who did not work at all. A different pattern held for white children: those in mother-only families were more likely than those in two-parent families to have mothers working full-time year-round -- 37 percent compared to 28 percent. About the same proportion of white children (32 percent) in each type of family had mothers who did not work during the year.

One in fourteen children in families below the poverty level had mothers who worked full-time, full-year. Another 30 percent had mothers who worked at some time during the year, while 62 percent of poor children had mothers who did not work at all during 1987.

Number and Proportion of Children Whose Mothers Worked Full-Time Full-Year, Part-Time or Part-Year, or Did Not Work for Pay At All During Calendar Year 1987, by Age of Child, Race and Family Type, and Poverty Status

	Mother Worked Full-Time, Full-Year		Mother Worked Part-Time or Part-Year		Mother Did Not Work For Pay During Year	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
All Children Living With their Mothers	18.1 mil	30%	21.5 mil	36%	19.8 mil	33%
Age of Children						
Under 3	2.1 mil	20%	4.2 mil	40%	4.2 mil	40%
3-5	2.6	25%	3.7	36%	4.1	39%
6-14	9.4	33%	10.4	36%	9.0	31%
15-17	3.9	41%	3.1	33%	2.5	26%
Race and Family Type						
White children	14.5 mil	30%	18.5 mil	38%	15.5 mil	32%
- in two-parent families	11.4	28%	16.0	40%	12.9	32%
- in mother-only families	3.0	37%	2.5	31%	2.6	32%
Black children	2.9 mil	33%	2.5 mil	29%	3.3 mil	39%
- in two-parent families	1.6	44%	1.1	29%	1.0	27%
- in mother-only families	1.2	25%	1.4	28%	2.4	48%
Poverty Status						
Poor	.9 mil	7%	3.6 mil	30%	7.3 mil	62%
Non-poor	17.2	36%	17.9	38%	12.5	26%

Source: Child Trends, Inc., calculated from U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, Series P-20, No. 163, Table 24 (unpublished corrected version). Data from March 1988 Current Population Survey.

37. **Maternal Employment and Family Income**. The median family income in 1987 for children in two-parent families where the mother was employed was nearly $40,000. This was one-third higher than the figure for children in two-parent families whose mothers were not in the labor force (their median = $30,000), and 72 percent higher than the income level for children in two-parent parent families whose mothers were looking for work but unable to find it (median = $23,200).

In two-parent families where the father was currently unemployed, median income in 1987 was about $25,800 if the mother was working, but only about half that if the mother was also unemployed (median = $12,600) or was not in the labor force (median = $13,500).

For children in single-parent, female-headed families, median income in 1987 was about $15,400 if the mother was employed, but only about one-third that if the mother was not in the labor force (median = $5,400) or was unemployed (median = $5,000).

Median Family Income For U.S. Children Under 18, By Mother's Employment Status and Family Type, 1987

	In Two-Parent Families		In Female -Headed Families	In All Types of Families
	All	Father Unemployed		
All children under 18	$35,619	$18,782	$9,007	$30,007
Children with mothers in labor force	$39,104	$23,882	$13,718	$33,844
Mother employed	$39,841	$25,840	$15,396	$35,016
Mother unemployed	$23,180	$12,629	$5,013	$13,674
Children with mothers not in labor force	$29,956	$13,489	$5,397	$23,677

Note: "Children" refers to unmarried children living with one or both parents in households maintained by the parent(s).

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, unpublished tables on "Marital and Family Characteristics of the Labor Force from the March 1988 Current Population Survey," September 1988.

38. **Child Care Arrangements for Young Children**. The primary child care arrangements made by employed mothers with children under 5 years of age are quite diverse. Out of 8.2 million children under 5 whose mothers were employed in the winter of 1984-85, close to 1.9 million (24 percent) were cared for in group care centers or nursery schools. About the same number (1.8 million, or 22 percent) were cared for by non-relative care providers in the providers' homes (family day care).

Another 2 million were cared for by grandparents or other relatives, either in the relatives' homes (15 percent) or in the child's home (9 percent). Comparatively few children (500 thousand, or 6 percent) were cared for by non-relative sitters or nannies in their own homes.

A considerable group (1.3 million, or 16 percent as of 1984-85) were cared for at home by their fathers while their mothers were working. This is usually made possible by at least one of the parents doing shiftwork. A small group (700 thousand, or 8 percent) had mothers who worked at home or had jobs outside the home that enabled them to care for the child while working.

Primary Child Care Arrangements Used By Employed Mothers For Children Under 5 Years of Age, Winter 1984-85

Type of Care Arrangement	Number of Children	Percentage of Children
Day care center or preschool	1.9 million	24%
Non-relative care in provider's home (family day care)	1.8 million	22%
Father in child's home (parents work different shifts)	1.3 million	16%
Grandparent or other relative in relative's home	1.2 million	15%
Grandparent or other relative in child's home	0.8 million	9%
Mother cares for child while working	0.7 million	8%
Non-relative sitter in child's home	0.5 milion	6%
TOTAL	8.2 million	100%

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, Series P-70, No. 9, Who's Minding the Kids? Child Care Arrangements: Winter 1984-85, Table B, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C., 1987.

39. **Child Care Arrangements by Age of Child and Family Characteristics**. The type of care arrangements used by working mothers with young children vary by the age of the child, the mother's employment schedule, her education, and the family type and income level. Child care arrangements also vary across ethnic groups.

Infants with working mothers are apt to be cared for in a "home environment," either their own or a relative's, whereas children of preschool age are often placed in group care centers, nursery schools, or with family day care providers. Mothers who work full-time are more likely than those who work part-time to have their children in day care centers, nursery schools, or family day care.

Employed mothers with more years of schooling and higher earnings are more apt to have their preschoolers in group care centers, nursery schools, and family day care than are employed mothers with less education and income. They are also more likely to use a paid caregiver in their own home. Mothers with less education and income are more apt to make use of care by fathers, grandparents, other relatives, and neighbors.

Primary Child Care Arrangements Used By Employed Mothers For Children Under 5 Years of Age, United States, Winter 1984-85

Age of Child and Family Characteristics	Percentage of Children In Care Arrangement				
	Day Care Center or Preschool	Family Day Care	Non-Relative Sitter In Child's Home	Father in Child's Home	Relative In Own or Child's Home
Total	24%	22%	6%	16%	24%
Age of Child					
Under 1	14%	23%	9%	18%	28%
1 and 2 years	17%	27%	6%	16%	26%
3 and 4 years	34%	18%	5%	14%	21%
Mother's Employment Schedule					
Full-time	28%	28%	5%	11%	23%
Part-time	17%	14%	7%	24%	25%
Educational Attainment of Mother					
College graduate or more	32%	27%	14%	8%	10%
Some college	24%	23%	5%	18%	21%
High school graduate	23%	22%	3%	17%	29%
Not a h.s. graduate	16%	15%	6%	20%	35%
Family Type and Income Level					
Married couple families	24%	22%	6%	17%	21%
Below poverty level	14%	12%	4%	42%	8%
1-1.99 x pov. level	15%	12%	4%	28%	28%
2-2.99 x pov. level	23%	22%	5%	17%	23%
3 x pov. level and above	29%	28%	8%	10%	18%
Mother only families	29%	25%	3%	2%	38%
Below poverty level	20%	28%	2%	1%	45%
1-1.99 x pov. level	35%	20%	2%	4%	36%
2-2.99 x pov. level and above	24%	26%	7%	<1%	41%
Ethnic Group					
White	22%	23%	6%	17%	22%
Black	32%	18%	4%	6%	39%
Hispanic	21%	13%	7%	18%	36%

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, Series P-70, No. 9, Who's Minding the Kids? Child Care Arrangements: Winter 1984-85, Tables D and 4; and Congressional Research Service, Child Day Care: Patterns of Use Among Families with Preschool Children, December 1988, Table B8.

40. **Trends in Types of Care Used for Young Children**. In recent years, young children with working mothers are more likely to be cared for outside their own homes, particularly if their mothers work full-time. Since 1965, there has been a large increase in the use of day care centers and nursery schools, a more modest increase in the use of family day care, a gradual decline in care by relatives, and a substantial decline in in-home care by non-relative sitters.

For youngest children under 5 whose mothers work full-time, the proportion cared for in day care centers or nursery schools rose from 8 percent in 1965 to 30 percent in 1984-85. Over the same period, the proportion using family day care grew from 20 to 27 percent, while the proportion cared for in their own homes by relatives or non-relatives fell from 47 to 23 percent.

For youngest children under 5 whose mothers work part-time, the proportion cared for in day care centers or nursery schools grew from 3 percent in 1965 to 17 percent in 1984-85. The proportion using family day care went from 8 to 14 percent, whereas the proportion cared for at home by relatives or non-relatives declined from 47 percent to 40 percent.

Types of Day Care Used By Mothers Employed Full-Time or Part-Time For Youngest Child Under Five, 1965 to 1984-85

	Percentage of Children In Care Arrangement			
	1965*	1977	1982	1984-85
Mother Employed Full-Time				
Day care center or preschool	8%	15%	20%	30%
Non-relative care in provider's home (family day care)	20%	27%	25%	27%
Grandparent or other relative in relative's home	18%	21%	21%	16%
Father in child's home	10%	11%	11%	10%
Other care in child's home	37%	18%	16%	13%
Mother Employed Part-Time				
Day care center or preschool	3%	9%	8%	17%
Non-relative care in provider's home (family day care)	8%	16%	19%	14%
Grandparent or other relative in relative's home	9%	13%	16%	16%
Father in child's home	23%	23%	21%	22%
Other care in child's home	24%	20%	20%	18%

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*Data for 1965 are for children under 6 years old.

Note: Data are based on survey questions that asked about care arrangements for youngest child in the family. Percentages for earlier years have been recalculated after removal of cases in "don't know" category.

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, Series P-70, No. 9, Who's Minding the Kids? Child Care Arrangements: Winter 1984-85, 1987, Table 3; and Series P-23, No. 117, Trends in Child Care Arrangements of Working Mothers, Table A; U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C.

41. **Children without Adult Supervision After School**. Nearly 2.1 million children aged 5-13 have no adult to care for them after school. 1.6 million take care of themselves, and another 500 thousand are cared for by a relative or neighbor under the age of 14. The proportion without adult supervision after school ranges from 1 percent of 5-year-olds to 6 percent of 9-year-olds to 14 percent of 13-year-olds.

School-Aged Children Without Adult Supervision After School, December 1984

Schoolaged Children By Age of Child and Family Characteristics	Total Number	Without adult care after school	
		Number	Percent
All children, 5-13 years	28.9 mil	2,065,000	7.2%
Mothers' Employment Status			
Mother in labor force	17.0 mil	1,859,000	10.9%
Employed full-time	10.6	1,424,000	13.5%
Not employed full-time	6.5	435,000	6.7%
Not in labor force	11.8	206,000	1.7%
Age of Child			
5 years	2.9 mil	32,000	1.1%
6 years	3.2	77,000	2.4%
7 years	3.2	121,000	3.8%
8 years	3.2	170,000	5.4%
9 years	3.1	194,000	6.2%
10 years	3.1	272,000	8.7%
11 years	3.2	337,000	10.6%
12 years	3.3	369,000	11.1%
13 years	3.6	496,000	13.9%
Total whose mothers work full-time	10.6 mil	1,424,000	13.5%
Mother's Education			
Less than high school	1.5 mil	115,000	7.8%
High school graduate	5.2	763,000	14.6%
Some college	2.1	285,000	13.4%
College graduate or more	1.7	258,000	14.8%
Family Income			
Less than $10,000	1.2 mil	121,000	10.0%
$10,000 to $19,999	2.8	367,000	13.3%
$20,000 to $34,999	3.4	438,000	12.9%
$35,000 and over	2.8	461,000	16.6%

Note: The validity of responses to survey questions about children left without supervision is difficult to measure. Some level of deliberate misreporting may occur because of the perceived illegality of leaving children unattended, fear for children's safety, or the social undesirability of "latchkey" child care.

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, Series P-23, No. 149, After-School Care of School-Age Children: December 1984, Tables 1, 2, and 3, January 1987.

INCOME AND ECONOMIC WELL-BEING

42. **Median Family Income of Children.** Between 1970 and 1985, the median family income of children declined steadily, after adjusting for inflation. Since 1985, the adjusted family income of children has risen, but still remains below the 1970 level of $29,943 in 1987 dollars. Children living in female-headed households have fared worse. Their adjusted family incomes have declined dramatically between 1970 and 1987, from $12,136 to $9,838 in 1987 dollars.

Median Family Income of Children Living in Families, 1960-1987

	1960	1970	1975	1980	1985	1986	1987
Current Dollars							
All types of families	$5,688	10,227	13,915	20,939	26,720	28,098	29,892
--husband-wife families	na	11,041	15,534	23,846	31,451	33,023	35,423
--mother-only families	na	4,145	5,501	7,938	9,472	9,467	9,838
Constant 1987 Dollars							
All types of families	$21,830	29,943	29,382	28,867	28,210	29,123	29,892
--husband-wife families	na	32,326	32,800	32,875	33,205	34,228	35,423
--mother-only families	na	12,136	11,615	10,944	10,000	9,813	9,838

Note: Data are for related children under 18 in families (i.e. biological, step-, and adopted children of the householder, and any other children related to the householder by blood, marriage, or adoption). The medians are based on children. That is, each child is characterized by the income of its family, and the median for all children is computed. Thus, of all children living in familes in 1987, half were in families with incomes greater than $29,892, and half were in families with lower incomes. Mother-only families are those having a female householder with no husband present. Constant dollars are calculated on the basis of the Consumer Price Index, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, Series P-60, No. 47, Table 5; No. 80, Table 19; No. 105, Table 24; No. 132, Tables 16, 17, 30; No. 137, Table 27; No. 146, Table 27; No. 151, Table 19; Series P-23, No. 114, Table 42; and Series P-60, No. 159, Table 20; No. 162, Table 20. Various dates to February 1989.

43. **Median Family Income of Children by Family Type and Race/Hispanic Origin**. After declining between 1979 and 1985, white children's family income has nearly regained its 1979 level. However, the family incomes of black and Hispanic children have continued to decline. The income of children in married-couple families has increased since 1985 for each of these three groups.

Overall, the median family income of white children is more than 1-3/4 times that of Hispanic children, and double that of black children. Some of the income differences between black and white children are due to the greater proportion of black children living in mother-only families. Among children in married-couple families or in female-headed families, the family income of white children is 1-1/3 to 1-1/2 times that of black or Hispanic children.

Median Family Income of Children[1] by Family Type and Race/Hispanic Origin, 1975, 1985, 1987

	Current Dollars			1987 Constant Dollars[2]		
	1979	1985	1987	1979	1985	1987
All Types of Families						
All Children[3]	$19,732	$26,720	$29,892	$30,875	$28,210	$29,892
White	21,058	28,988	32,217	32,950	30,604	32,217
Black	10,675	14,879	15,005	16,704	15,709	15,005
Hispanic	14,067	17,027	17,962	22,011	17,976	17,962
Married Couple Families						
All Children[3]	$22,258	$31,451	$35,423	$34,828	$33,205	$35,423
White	22,714	32,153	36,158	35,541	33,946	36,158
Black	17,369	24,867	27,453	27,178	26,254	27,453
Hispanic	16,543	21,415	23,342	25,885	22,609	23,342
Female Headed Families						
All Children[3]	$7,734	$9,472	$9,838	$12,102	$10,000	$9,838
White	9,058	11,296	11,703	14,173	11,926	11,703
Black	6,565	7,267	7,828	10,273	7,672	7,828
Hispanic	5,934	7,368	7,747	9,285	7,779	7,747

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[1] Median income levels are based on children. That is, each child is characterized by the income of its family, and the median for all children is computed.

[2] Constant dollars are calculated on the basis of the Consumer Price Index, US Bureau of the Census, unpublished data.

[3] Children in this analysis are related children, who are those children under 18, including biological, step-, and adopted children of the householder, and any other children related to the householder by blood, marriage, or adoption.

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, Series P-23, No. 114, Table 42, January 1982; and unpublished data from the Bureau of the Census, 1989.

44. **Distribution of Income by Family Type and Race/Hispanic Origin**. The distribution of income varies substantially across family types. For example, children from mother-only families are nine times more likely to have incomes of less than $10,000 per year than those living with both parents. Whereas one-fourth of children living with both parents have family incomes over $50,000, just over one percent of mother-only families do.

The income distribution among all family types, across races, varies considerably. While the largest proportion of white children fall into the $30,000 - $49,999 income category, both black and Hispanic children are more likely to be in families with incomes of less than $10,000. Among children living in two-parent families, income distributions look much more similar across all races. Among both black and white children in two-parent families, the largest proportion of children fall within the $30,000 - $49,999 income bracket. Within this family type, Hispanics are less well off financially than are blacks.

Distribution of Family Income of Children by Family Type and Race/Hispanic Origin, 1987

				---Mother Only----	
	Total Children[1]	Children With Both Parents	Children With Mom Only	Divorced/ Spouse Absent	Never Married
All Races					
Number of Children	61,271	45,942	13,521	8,381	4,302
<$10,000	18.1%	6.2%	57.6%	48.4%	79.2%
$10,000-19,999	17.0%	14.6%	24.0%	27.8%	15.3%
$20,000-29,999	16.7%	18.4%	11.0%	14.3%	3.5%
$30,000-49,999	28.6%	35.5%	6.1%	7.8%	1.8%
$50,000 and over	19.6%	25.4%	1.3%	1.7%	.2%
Mean Income	$33,394	$40,067	$11,989	$13,934	$7,054
White					
Number of Children	49,911	40,287	8,160	6,137	1,482
<$10,000	13.5%	5.7%	50.4%	45.5%	75.6%
$10,000-19,999	16.0%	13.7%	26.1%	28.2%	17.6%
$20,000-29,999	17.6%	18.3%	14.0%	15.9%	4.0%
$30,000-49,999	31.1%	36.2%	7.6%	8.6%	2.2%
$50,000 and over	21.8%	26.2%	1.9%	1.9%	.5%
Mean Income	$35,953	$40,833	$13,754	$14,658	$7,829
Black					
Number of Children	8,986	3,739	4,959	1,981	2,736
<$10,000	43.9%	9.4%	70.0%	57.3%	81.2%
$10,000-19,999	21.7%	22.8%	20.3%	26.2%	14.2%
$20,000-29,999	12.6%	21.5%	6.0%	10.2%	3.1%
$30,000-49,999	15.3%	31.2%	3.4%	5.4%	1.5%
$50,000 and over	6.5%	15.1%	.3%	.8%	.0%
Mean Income	$18,500	$31,423	$8,929	$11,617	$6,596
Hispanic					
Number of Children	6,544	4,497	1,845	1,135	600
<$10,000	30.7%	14.7%	68.9%	65.3%	79.7%
$10,000-19,999	27.1%	29.4%	22.1%	25.2%	13.8%
$20,000-29,999	16.7%	21.0%	5.6%	6.0%	3.3%
$30,000-49,999	17.6%	23.8%	2.8%	3.0%	2.7%
$50,000 and over	8.0%	11.1%	.7%	.4%	.3%
Mean Income	$21,921	$27,159	$9,507	$9,976	$7,540

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[1] Refers to all children living with one or both parents, under 18 years.

Source: Calculations by Child Trends, Inc., from data in Current Population Survey, Marital Status and Living Arrangements: March 1988, Series P-20, No. 433, Table 9.

45. **Changes in Family Income by Income Level and Family Type**. Among families with children, average family income declined 14 percent between 1979 and 1987 for those families falling in the bottom fifth of the income distribution. In contrast, families in the highest fifth saw average gains of 19 percent during the same period. The incomes of the elderly have increased since 1979 at all income levels.

Changes in Family Income, 1979 to 1987, From Lowest to Highest Fifth of the Income Distribution and by Family Type

	1979	1987	Percent Change 1979-87
All Families With Children			
Lowest Fifth	.94	.81	-14%
Second	1.80	1.70	-6%
Middle	2.47	2.53	2%
Fourth	3.23	3.49	8%
Highest Fifth	4.91	5.83	19%
Average	2.67	2.87	7%
Married Couples W/ Children			
Lowest Fifth	1.18	1.09	-8%
Second	2.03	2.05	1%
Middle	2.67	2.83	6%
Fourth	3.43	3.78	10%
Highest Fifth	5.08	6.17	21%
Average	2.88	3.18	10%
Single Mothers W/ Children			
Lowest Fifth	.50	.44	-12%
Second	.96	.81	-16%
Middle	1.33	1.17	-12%
Fourth	1.92	1.83	-5%
Highest Fifth	3.24	3.51	8%
Average	1.59	1.55	-3%
Elderly Childless Units			
Lowest Fifth	.94	1.05	12%
Second	1.64	1.85	13%
Middle	2.39	2.73	14%
Fourth	3.41	3.90	14%
Highest Fifth	6.19	7.27	17%
Average	2.91	3.36	15%

Note: Incomes are presented using the Adjusted Family Income (AFI) approach; that is, income is divided by the poverty threshold for the appropriate family size. Thus, income is expressed as a multiple of poverty. An AFI of 2.5 means that a family's income is 2 1/2 times the poverty level for a family of its size. Income levels are weighted by persons and calculated based on post-tax income, and include the estimated cash values of any food or housing benefits received by the family.

Source: Congressional Budget Office, "Trends in Family Income: 1970-1986," February 1988, and tabulations of 1988 Current Population Survey data.

46. **Children in Poverty by Age, Race/Hispanic Origin, and Family Type**. Children are more likely than any other age group to be living in poverty. In 1987, nearly 21 percent of all children, and more than 22 percent of preschool children, were living below the poverty line. By contrast, 12 percent of the elderly and 14 percent of persons of all ages lived in poverty. Between 1970 and 1987, there was a 36 percent change in the poverty rate for all children, increasing from 15 percent to 21 percent.

Black and Hispanic children are two-to-three times more likely to be living in poverty than are white children. In 1987, the poverty rate for black children was 45 percent and for Hispanic children, 39 percent. The poverty rate for children living in female-headed households -- 55 percent in 1987 -- continues to be more than twice that of children in general. Young children in female-headed families have poverty rates three times those of young children in general.

Increases in poverty rates in the 1970s and 1980s corresponded with periods of recession in the national economy. However, despite the sustained economic growth of recent years, child poverty rates have declined only slightly, and for Hispanic children they have not declined.

Number and Percentage of Persons Below Poverty, 1959-1987

	1959	1970	1980	1983	1986	1987
ALL CHILDREN UNDER 18						
Number (in thousands)	17,552	10,440	11,543	13,911	12,876	13,016
Percent	27.3%	15.1%	18.3%	22.3%	20.5%	20.6%
PERSONS IN ALL FAMILIES						
Persons 65 or Older	35.2%	24.6%	15.7%	13.8%	12.4%	12.2%
Persons of All Ages	22.4%	12.6%	13.0%	15.2%	13.6%	13.5%
RELATED CHILDREN <18						
All Children	26.9%	14.9%	17.9%	21.8%	19.8%	20.0%
White	20.6%	10.5%	13.4%	17.0%	15.3%	15.0%
Black	65.3%	41.5%	42.1%	46.2%	42.7%	45.1%
Hispanic Origin	na	na	33.0%	37.7%	37.1%	39.3%
RELATED CHILDREN <6						
All Children	na	16.6%	20.3%	24.6%	21.6%	22.3%
White	na	11.9%	15.5%	19.6%	17.2%	17.2%
Black	na	42.0%	45.5%	49.0%	45.1%	48.4%
Hispanic Origin	na	na	34.4%	41.6%	40.2%	41.7%
	1959	1970	1980	1983	1986	1987
PERSONS IN FEMALE-HEADED FAMILIES						
Persons 65 or Older	49.2%	41.1%	27.8%	23.8%	23.1%	22.1%
Persons of All Ages	50.2%	38.2%	33.8%	35.6%	34.2%	33.6%
RELATED CHILDREN <18						
All Children	72.2%	53.0%	50.8%	55.4%	54.4%	54.7%
White	64.6%	43.1%	41.6%	47.1%	46.3%	45.8%
Black	81.6%	67.7%	64.8%	68.3%	67.1%	68.3%
Hispanic Origin	na	na	65.0%	70.6%	66.7%	70.1%
RELATED CHILDREN <6						
All Children	na	64.3%	65.2%	67.7%	65.2%	65.7%
White	na	58.5%	59.8%	62.8%	60.4%	60.8%
Black	na	70.8%	71.8%	73.8%	71.3%	71.9%
Hispanic Origin	na	na	70.3%	82.4%	74.3%	75.0%

Related children are any children related to the householder by blood, marriage, or adoption. The poverty level is based on money income, and does not reflect receipt of non-cash benefits such as food stamps. Poverty levels are set according to the size and composition of the family and are revised each year to reflect changes in the Consumer Price Index. In 1987, the average poverty level for a family of four was $11,611. In 1975, it was $5,456.

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, Series P-60, No. 81, Table 4; No. 133, Tables 9 and 11; No. 147, Tables 9 and 11; No. 160, Tables 2,6 and 7; No. 161, Tables 16 and 18; No. 163, February 1989, Tables 6 and 7.

47. **Families in Poverty by Family Type**. Between 1959 and 1970, the proportion of poor families with children declined from one in five to slightly more than one in nine. Since 1970, however, the poverty rate for families has increased 40 percent, to about one in six. Nearly half of all female-headed families were in poverty in 1987, a proportion essentially unchanged since 1970.

In 1987, 16 percent of families with children, and nearly 20 percent of families with preschool children were living below poverty, compared with fewer than 5 percent of U.S. families without children. In addition, 46 percent of female-headed families with children, and approximately 60 percent of female-headed families with preschool children, were poor in 1987.

Families in Poverty by Family Type, 1959-1987

Family Type	1959	1970	1975	1980	1985	1986	1987
Number of Families With Related Children[1] <18 Years (in millions)	5.4	3.5	4.2	4.8	5.6	5.5	5.5
Poverty Rate by Family Type							
Families With Related Children <18 Years							
All Families	20.3%	11.6%	13.3%	14.7%	16.7%	16.3%	16.2%
Married Couple Families	na	na	7.2%	7.7%	8.9%	8.0%	7.8%
Male Headed, No Wife	na	na	11.7%	18.0%	17.1%	17.8%	17.6%
Female Headed, No Husb.	59.9%	43.8%	44.0%	42.9%	45.4%	46.0%	46.1%
Families With Related Children <6 Years							
All Families	na	na	16.1%	18.4%	20.6%	19.6%	19.8%
Married Couple Families	na	na	9.0%	9.8%	11.1%	9.8%	9.9%
Male Headed, No Wife	na	na	13.3%	22.4%	24.9%	24.7%	27.1%
Female Headed, No Husb.	na	na	57.3%	60.6%	61.3%	60.6%	60.5%
Families Without Children <18 Years							
All Families	15.9%	8.0%	5.1%	5.1%	5.5%	4.9%	4.9%
Married Couple Families	na	na	4.8%	4.5%	4.6%	4.1%	4.1%
Male Headed, No Wife	na	na	5.7%	6.1%	9.0%	6.2%	8.0%
Female Headed, No Husb.	20.1%	12.6%	7.5%	9.7%	10.3%	10.4%	9.8%

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[1] Related children include biological, step-, and adopted children of the householder, and any other children related to the householder by blood, marriage, or adoption.

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, Series P-60, No. 81, Table 14; No.106, Table 20; No. 133, Table 19; No. 158, Table 15; No. 160, Table 15; No. 163, February 1989, Tables 3 and 15.

48. **Families in Poverty by Race/Hispanic Origin and Family Type**. Across all ethnic groups, the chances of being poor are higher for families with children under 6 than for families with older children. Black families with children under 18 are three times more likely to be in poverty than their white counterparts. Hispanic families with children are more than twice as likely to be in poverty as white families.

Households with children under 18 headed by black or Hispanic women are one-and-a-half times as likely to be in poverty as those headed by white women. Black married-couple families with children have double the poverty rates of white married-couple families.

Families in Poverty by Race/Hispanic Origin and Family Type, 1959-1987

	1959	1970	1975	1980	1985	1986	1987
All Families with Children <18							
All Races	20.3%	11.6%	13.3%	14.7%	16.7%	16.3%	16.2%
Whites	15.8%	8.5%	10.3%	11.2%	13.3%	13.0%	12.4%
Blacks	na	34.9%	33.9%	35.5%	36.0%	35.4%	37.3%
Hispanics	na	na	29.1%	27.2%	32.1%	30.8%	32.1%
Married-Couple Families with Children <18							
All Races	na	na	7.2%	7.7%	8.9%	8.0%	7.8%
Whites	na	na	6.3%	6.8%	8.2%	7.5%	7.0%
Blacks	na	na	16.5%	15.5%	12.9%	11.5%	13.6%
Hispanics	na	na	na	na	na	na	na
Female-Headed Families with Children <18							
All Races	59.9%	43.8%	44.0%	42.9%	45.4%	46.0%	46.1%
Whites	51.7%	na	37.3%	35.9%	38.7%	39.8%	38.7%
Blacks	na	na	57.5%	56.0%	58.9%	58.0%	59.5%
Hispanics	na	na	na	na	64.0%	59.5%	60.7%
	1959	1970	1975	1980	1985	1986	1987
All Families with Children <6							
All Races	na	na	16.1%	18.4%	20.6%	19.6%	19.8%
Whites	na	na	12.8%	14.0%	16.7%	15.7%	15.2%
Blacks	na	na	36.6%	41.7%	42.0%	41.2%	43.1%
Married-Couple Families with Children <6							
All Races	na	na	9.0%	9.8%	11.1%	9.8%	9.9%
Whites	na	na	8.0%	8.7%	10.4%	9.3%	8.7%
Blacks	na	na	17.7%	18.2%	14.6%	13.0%	18.2%
Female-Headed Families with Children <6							
All Races	na	na	57.3%	60.6%	61.3%	60.6%	60.5%
Whites	na	na	54.1%	55.1%	55.4%	55.0%	54.8%
Blacks	na	na	62.8%	67.4%	70.4%	68.9%	68.0%

Note: Related children include biological, step-, and adopted children of the householder, and any other children related to the householder by blood, marriage, or adoption. Hispanic data for children under 6 are not available.

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, Series P-60, No. 106, Table 20; No. 133, Table 19; No. 147, Table 19; No. 158, Table 15; No. 160, Table 15; No. 163, February 1989, Tables 3 and 15.

49. **Families Having Various Sources of Income and Proportion of Income Provided by These Sources**. Families from different income groups have substantially different sources of income. Nearly all non-poor families have income from earnings, and more than half derive income from interest and dividends. Nearly one in four non-poor families receive at least some income from government transfer programs.

Whereas nearly half of all female-headed poor families, and more than three-quarters of male-headed poor families reported income from earnings in 1987, only 13 percent and 26 percent, respectively, received interest or dividend income. By contrast, in 1987, 2 out of 3 female-headed poor families and 2 out of 5 male-headed poor families received some income from government transfer programs.

Proportion of Families Receiving Income From Various Sources, by Family Type and Poverty Status, 1979 and 1987

	Poor		Non Poor	
	1979	1987	1979	1987
Female Headed Families with Children				
Number of Families	2,458	3,543	3,729	4,013
Earnings	49.6%	47.2%	94.7%	96.7%
AFDC,SSI,General Asst.	65.0%	64.1%	18.2%	10.9%
Child Support/Alimony	18.6%	26.0%	44.0%	44.4%
Food Stamps	67.2%	67.6%	16.6%	8.2%
Housing Assistance	21.6%	31.6%	6.0%	7.5%
Interest/Dividends	13.3%	10.4%	53.3%	52.4%
Other [1]	20.0%	18.0%	40.8%	31.4%
Male Present Families with Children				
Number of Families	1,663	2,237	24,315	24,610
Earnings	79.5%	77.7%	99.4%	99.3%
AFDC,SSI,General Asst.	24.3%	27.2%	3.2%	2.3%
Child Support/Alimony	7.4%	10.7%	11.3%	13.7%
Food Stamps	41.8%	41.8%	3.5%	2.2%
Housing Assistance	7.3%	9.5%	1.1%	1.0%
Interest/Dividends	26.9%	22.2%	72.6%	70.6%
Other [1]	33.2%	25.9%	27.2%	23.3%

Proportion of Total Income from Various Sources by Family Type, 1979 and 1987

	Poor		Non Poor	
	1979	1987	1979	1987
Female Headed Families with Children				
Number of Families	2,458	3,543	3,729	4,013
Earnings & Int./Div.	25.1%	25.3%	77.1%	83.8%
AFDC,SSI,General Asst.	38.2%	36.1%	3.8%	1.8%
Child Support/Alimony	4.7%	5.5%	8.0%	7.1%
Food Stamps	16.6%	17.0%	.9%	.3%
Housing Assistance	8.0%	8.3%	.7%	.4%
Other [1]	7.4%	7.9%	9.5%	6.5%
Male Present Families with Children				
Number of Families	1,663	2,237	24,315	24,610
Earnings & Int./Div.	62.4%	63.0%	95.9%	96.5%
AFDC,SSI,General Asst.	10.9%	13.5%	.3%	.2%
Child Support/Alimony	1.5%	2.4%	.7%	.8%
Food Stamps	9.3%	8.5%	.1%	.0%
Housing Assistance	2.5%	1.8%	.1%	.0%
Other [1]	13.4%	10.8%	2.9%	2.4%

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[1] "Other" refers to Unemployment Compensation, OASDI, Railroad Retirement, Pensions, Workers Compensation, and Veterans Payments.

Source: Congressional Research Service, tables based on March 1980 and 1988 Current Population Surveys, 1989.

50. **Income Transfer Receipt and Poverty Status of Children.** Of the 25 percent of all children who are considered to be in poverty before receiving public transfers, 21 percent are lifted out of poverty as a result of this assistance. Over half of children in poverty, however, remain poor despite receiving some transfers. Another 23 percent of poor children do not receive transfers. Children in two-parent families are more likely to be lifted out of poverty by receipt of transfers than are children in female-headed families. Children in female-headed families, however, are more likely to be receiving benefits.

Income Transfer Receipt, Poverty Status, and Working Status of Householder by Family Type, 1987

				Pre-Transfer Poor			
					Receive Transfers		
	All Children	Pre-Transfer Poor	Not Pre-Transfer Poor	Total	Brought Above Poverty	Still In Poverty	Receive No Transfers
Percent Of All Children[1]	100.0%	24.5%	75.4%	100%	20.8%	56.3%	22.9%
Two Parent	100.0%	13.8%	86.2%	100%	23.9%	42.0%	34.1%
Female Headed	100.0%	61.6%	38.4%	100%	18.5%	69.0%	12.5%
Average Transfer Payment							
Two Parent	$1,211	na	$816	--	$9,278	$4,973	$223
Female Headed	$3,407	na	$1,259	--	$8,099	$5,548	$186
Percent With At Least One Full Time[3] **Worker**							
Two Parent	88.2%	na	93.6%	--	36.0%	28.5%	66.5%
Female Headed	43.4%	na	79.7%	--	20.0%	5.7%	26.5%

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1 Children living in group quarters or not with relatives are excluded.

2 The poverty gap is the dollar amount needed to raise a poor family's post-tax income plus the value of food and housing assistance up to the relevant poverty line.

3 Full time, full year workers are people who worked at least 40 weeks during 1987 and who usually worked at least 35 hours per week.

Note: Poverty status is determined by comparing a family's cash income minus Federal income and payroll taxes plus the market value of food and housing assistance with the relevant poverty threshold. Pre-transfer income equals a family's post-tax income plus the value of food and housing assistance minus the cash value of all government transfers. Transfers considered include Social Security, Railroad Retirement, Unemployment Compensation, workers' compensation, government pensions, Veterans' pensions and compensation, food stamps, housing assistance, AFDC, SSI, and General Assistance. The value of school lunch subsidies is included as income and in the mean value of transfers, but families receiving only lunch transfers were considered not to be getting transfers.

Source: Congressional Budget Office, tabulations of data from the March 1988 Current Population Survey, 1989.

51. Child Support. Only 37 percent of women with children under 21 whose fathers are absent receive child support payments from the absent fathers. The proportion receiving support increased only slightly between 1983 and 1985 due to an increase in the proportion awarded support. The likelihood of support is highest when the mother is legally divorced, is white, or has a college education.

Award and Receipt of Child Support by Women With Minor Children From an Absent Father, 1978-1985

	Percent Who Received Any Child Support[1]				Percent Awarded Child Support Payments			
	1978	1981	1983	1985	1978	1981	1983	1985
All women with minor children from an absent father	35%	35%	35%	37%	59%	59%	58%	61%
Number of own children								
One child	30	30	34	34	55	57	56	60
Two children	42	42	39	45	65	65	62	68
Three children	36	37	33	35	62	57	57	58
Four children or more	34	29	26	23	57	49	46	35
Current Marital Status								
Divorced	52	52	50	54	80	81	76	82
Remarried	39	39	41	42	77	78	76	82
Separated	27	27	26	28	45	43	41	43
Never married	6	7	9	11	11	14	18	18
Race and Hispanic Origin								
White	43	42	42	43	71	69	67	71
Black	14	16	16	20	29	34	34	36
Hispanic origin	24	24	20	24	44	44	41	42
Educational Attainment								
Less than 12 years	23	19	21	23	46	43	42	45
High school graduate	38	37	37	38	64	63	61	63
Some college	43	45	41	45	69	68	64	71
College graduate	52	56	51	52	71	77	71	77

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[1] Percentages shown are based on all women with children from an absent father, not just those with child support awards.

Source: Calculated from U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, Series P-23, No. 112, 1981, Tables B, 1; No. 140, 1985, Tables B, 1; No. 141, 1985, Tables C, 1; No. 152, 1987, Tables E, 1.

(continued)

Women With Minor Children From an Absent Father, 1978-1985

	Number in U.S. Population (in millions)			
	1978	1981	1983	1985
All women with minor children from an absent father	7.1	8.4	8.7	8.8
Number of own children				
One child	3.6	4.2	4.4	4.6
Two children	2.1	2.8	2.8	2.9
Three children	.8	.9	1.0	.9
Four children or more	.5	.5	.4	.5
Current Marital Status				
Divorced	2.4	2.9	3.2	3.0
Remarried	2.0	2.2	2.1	2.3
Separated	1.3	1.6	1.5	1.4
Never married	1.4	1.7	1.9	2.0
Race and Hispanic Origin				
White	5.1	6.0	6.2	6.3
Black	1.9	2.3	2.3	2.3
Hispanic origin	.5	.6	.8	.8
Educational Attainment				
Less than 12 years	2.4	2.4	2.2	2.2
High school graduate	3.2	4.0	4.2	4.2
Some college	1.1	1.4	1.5	1.7
College graduate	.5	.6	.7	.7

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, Series P-23, No. 112, 1981, Tables B, 1; No. 140, 1985, Tables B, 1; No. 141, 1985, Tables C, 1; No. 152, 1987, Tables E, 1.

52. **Poverty Rates of Women Receiving Child Support**. The likelihood of being in poverty while receiving child support has increased since 1978. Poverty rates are particularly high for mothers who have never been married, have little education, and have more than two children. Completing high school greatly decreases the chances of being in poverty for these mothers: their poverty rate is half that of those who do not graduate. The poverty rate for blacks is over twice that for whites, with Hispanic poverty rates falling between the two groups.

Poverty Rates of Women With Minor Children from an Absent Father Receiving Child Support, by Number of Children, Marital Status, Race, and Educational Attainment, 1978-1985

	1978	1981	1983	1985
All women with minor children from an absent father	14%	17%	19%	18%
Number of own children				
One child	10%	13%	15%	15%
Two children	14%	18%	18%	19%
Three children	22%	23%	31%	23%
Four children or more	28%	29%	38%	40%
Current Marital Status				
Divorced	14%	16%	18%	18%
Remarried	3%	5%	5%	5%
Separated	36%	35%	42%	30%
Never Married	37%	58%	46%	53%
Race and Spanish Origin				
White	11%	14%	15%	15%
Black	40%	39%	41%	37%
Spanish Origin	23%	29%	34%	22%
Educational Attainment				
Less than 12 years	26%	39%	38%	39%
High school graduate	14%	16%	18%	19%
Some college	9%	9%	14%	13%
College graduate	2%	8%	5%	2%

Source: Calculated from U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, Series P-23, No. 112, Table 1; No. 140, Table 1; No. 140, Table 1; No. 141, Table 1; No. 152, Table 1.

53. **Income Supplied by Child Support and Mean Annual Child Support for Women with Minor Children from an Absent Father**. Both the mean child support paid (in constant dollars) and the proportion of income that it represents have declined 25 percent since 1978. In 1985, child support payments accounted for 15 percent of the income of women who received them, whereas in 1978, such payments accounted for 20 percent of income. Child support amounts are lowest for less educated, never married, and minority women.

Proportion of Income Supplied by Child Support and Amount of Child Support to Women with Minor Children from an Absent Father, by Selected Characteristics, 1978-1985

	1978	Mean Annual Support Received[1]	1981	Mean Annual Support Received[1]	1985	Mean Annual Support Received[1]
Total women with any minor children from an absent father	20%	$2,966	18%	$2,491	15%	$2,215
Number of own children						
One child	15%	$2,124	15%	$1,921	12%	$1,679
Two children	22%	$3,290	19%	$2,711	17%	$2,597
Three children	26%	$4,168	21%	$3,308	17%	$2,800
Four children or more	30%	$4,538	25%	$3,721	28%	$3,739
Current Marital Status						
Divorced	18%	$3,217	16%	$2,626	15%	$2,538
Remarried	22%	$2,642	21%	$2,258	15%	$1,966
Separated	23%	$3,143	24%	$2,808	16%	$2,082
Never Married	22%	$1,609	18%	$1,201	12%	$1,147
Race and Spanish Origin						
White	20%	$3,069	18%	$2,579	15%	$2,294
Black	18%	$2,134	19%	$1,940	13%	$1,754
Spanish Origin	19%	$2,173	23%	$2,446	17%	$2,011
Educational Attainment						
Less than 12 years	23%	$2,478	24%	$1,984	20%	$1,835
High school graduate	21%	$2,744	18%	$2,258	15%	$2,040
Some college	20%	$3,445	17%	$2,731	14%	$2,447
College graduate	16%	$4,244	16%	$3,654	13%	$2,978
Below the Poverty Line	na	na	34%	$1,703	27%	$1,383

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[1] Dollar amounts are presented in constant 1985 dollars calculated on the basis of the Consumer Price Index, U.S. Bureau of the Census, Statistical Abstract of the United States, 1987, Table 774.

Source: Calculated by Child Trends, Inc., from U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, Series P-23, No. 112, Table 2; No. 140, Table 2; No. 152, Table 1, August 1987.

54. **Children Receiving Aid to Families with Dependent Children**. After rising in the early 1970s, the proportion of all children receiving Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) has stabilized through the eighties. In 1987, one in nine children received some assistance from AFDC.

After peaking in 1975 at 73 percent, the proportion of children in poverty who received AFDC dropped to 50 percent in 1982. In 1987, AFDC reached only 56 percent of children in poverty.

Number and Proportion of Children Who Received AFDC Benefits, 1970-1987

	1970	1975	1980	1982	1985	1986	1987
Number of AFDC Child Recipients	6,104	7,952	7,295	6,767	7,074	7,206	7,240
AFDC Child Recipients as a % of Child Pop.	8.8%	11.8%	11.5%	10.8%	11.2%	11.4%	11.4%
AFDC Child Recipients as % of Children in Poverty	59.6%	73.1%	64.2%	50.2%	55.2%	56.8%	56.4%

Note: All population numbers refer to the U.S. resident population. In calculating the number of AFDC recipients, data for Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands were subtracted from the total. U.S. population data for these territories was not available for 1970-1976, so an estimate was used based on the ratio in later years of the number of recipients in these areas to the total number of recipients.

Source: U.S. House of Representatives, Background Material and Data on Programs within the Jurisdiction of the Committee on Ways and Means, March 1989, Page 560, Table 21.

55. **Aid to Families with Dependent Children Eligibility Basis**. Primary eligibility for receiving Aid to Families with Dependent Children is determined by a means test based on income and the absence or incapacity of a parent. Prior to 1984, the leading eligibility basis was the divorce or separation of the parents. This has since been replaced by non-marital childbearing. In 1987, this basis accounted for 50 percent of the children receiving AFDC. Together, non-marital childbearing and divorce or separation are the basis of eligibility for 85 percent of AFDC children.

Percent Distribution of Children Receiving AFDC, by Basis for Eligibility, 1969-1987

Basis for Child's Eligibility	May 1969[1]	May 1975	March 1979	1984	1986	1987
Divorce/Separation	43.3%	48.3%	44.7%	38.2%	36.3%	35.4%
Parents Unmarried	27.9%	31.0%	37.8%	46.4%	48.9%	50.0%
Father Deceased	5.5%	3.7%	2.2%	1.9%	1.9%	1.8%
Father Unemployed	4.6%	3.7%	4.1%	8.6%	7.4%	7.9%
Father Incapacitated	11.7%	7.7%	5.3%	3.6%	3.2%	3.5%
Other	3.5%	4.0%	5.9%	1.2%	2.4%	1.3%

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[1] Calculated on the basis of total number of families.

Note: Data for 1984, 1986, and 1987 are for the federal Fiscal Year October through September. All percentages are based on the average monthly caseload during the year.

Source: Office of Family Assistance, Family Support Administration, and Congressional Budget Office, 1989.

56. **Non-Cash Benefits**. In 1981, about one-quarter of households with children under 18 received one or more of the main means-tested non-cash benefits: free or reduced-price school lunches, food stamps, Medicaid, and subsidized rental housing. The proportion of households receiving each benefit has changed little in the last few years.

Proportion of Households with Children Under 19 Years Old Receiving Means-Tested Non-Cash Benefits, 1979-1985

Benefit Program	1979	1980	1981	1982	1984	1985
Free or reduced-price school lunches[1]	18.7%	20.9%	20.4%	21.5%	21.4%	21.4%
Food Stamps	11.8%	13.1%	13.5%	14.0%	13.3%	12.9%
Medicaid[2]	12.1%	12.7%	13.0%	12.7%	12.7%	12.6%
Subsidized housing[3]	12.5%	12.9%	13.8%	14.1%	14.4%	14.5%
One or more of the above	23.4%	25.0%	25.0%	na	na	na

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1 Based on households with children 5 to 18 years old.

2 Based on children covered by the program rather than children actually receiving a Medicaid-paid service during the year.

3 Based on households in renter-occupied housing.

Source: Calculated from the U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, Series P-60: No. 135, Table 1; No. 143, Table B; No. 150, Table B; No. 155, Table B.

EDUCATION

57. **School Enrollment.** Although the number of children enrolled in school increased 2 percent between 1985 and 1988, total enrollment is still 10 percent lower than it was in 1970. Enrollments at the primary grade levels have begun to increase, but declines at the high-school level are expected to continue until the early 1990s. These changes in numbers enrolled are primarily due to changes in the size of the school-aged population.

Significant increases have occurred in the percentages enrolled at both ends of the age spectrum. The increase in the proportion of students enrolled in high school or college at ages 18-19 is particularly noteworthy. This proportion rose from 38 to 55 percent between 1960 and 1986. Even at ages 20-21, a third of young people are currently enrolled in college or high school, compared with less than one-fifth in 1960.

At the other end of the age spectrum, enrollment of 3- and 4-year olds has risen to about two of five children, compared with one in five in 1970.

Private school enrollment, as a proportion of total enrollment, has shown little variation in the last twenty years. It is slightly lower than it was thirty years ago. Currently, one in ten high school students is enrolled in private school, as is one in seven students enrolled in kindergarten through eighth grade.

Number of Children Enrolled in School, Percent Enrolled in Private Schools, and Percent of Selected Age Groups Enrolled, 1960-1988

Enrollment in regular public and private schools (thousands)

	1960	1970	1980	1985	1986	1987	1988
All grades	40,857	51,272	46,318	45,066	45,437	45,900	45,980
Grades K-8	31,551	36,629	31,666	31,220	31,704	32,383	32,839
Grades 9-12	9,306	14,643	14,652	13,830	13,734	13,517	13,141

Enrollment in private schools as a percent of total enrollments

	1960	1970	1980	1985	1986	1987	1988
Grades K-8	14.7%	11.1%	12.6%	13.8%	13.6%	13.6%	13.4%
Grades 9-12	11.1	9.0	9.1	10.1	9.5	9.6	9.9

Percent enrolled in school by age

	1960	1970	1980	1985	1986	1987	1988
Ages 3-4	na	20.5%	36.7%	38.9%	38.9%	na	na
Ages 5-6	80.7	89.5	95.7	96.1	95.3	na	na
Ages 7-13	99.5	99.2	99.3	99.2	99.2	na	na
Ages 14-15	97.8	98.1	98.2	98.1	97.6	na	na
Ages 16-17	82.6	90.0	89.0	91.7	92.3	na	na
Ages 18-19	38.4	47.7	46.4	51.6	54.6	na	na
Ages 20-21	19.4	31.9	31.0	35.3	33.0	na	na

Source: U.S. Department of Education, Digest of Education Statistics 1988, Table 3; and Current Population Reports, Series P-20, No. 429, Table A-3.

58. **Nursery School and Kindergarten Enrollment**. The proportion of five-year olds enrolled in pre-primary school increased during the past decade, such that in 1986, 87 percent of five-year olds were enrolled in pre-primary school. Income differences in enrollment of five-year olds that existed in 1977 had all but disappeared by 1986. Among younger children, however, those from low-income families were much less likely to be enrolled in a pre-primary school program than non-low income children. Over the past ten years, enrollment of three- and four-year olds increased overall by 22 percent, while enrollment among low income children increased only 4 percent.

Racial breakdowns of pre-primary enrollment reveal few differences between black and white children for three- and four-year olds. Hispanic three- and four-year olds, while still less likely to be enrolled than black and white children, have increased their enrollment by 45 percent over this period. Among five-year olds, black and Hispanic children are somewhat less likely to be enrolled in pre-primary school than white children.

Proportion of 3, 4, and 5 Year Olds Enrolled in Pre-Primary School by Family Income and Age, 1977-1986

	1977	1980	1984	1985	1986
3 and 4 Year Olds					
Total Enrolled	32%	37%	36%	39%	39%
Low Income	26%	29%	25%	29%	27%
Non-Low Income	33%	40%	40%	42%	42%
5 Year Olds					
Total Enrolled	82%	85%	84%	87%	87%
Low Income	78%	81%	79%	82%	86%
Non-Low Income	83%	86%	85%	88%	87%

Proportion of 3, 4,and 5 Year Olds Enrolled in Pre-Primary School by Race/Hispanic Origin and Age, 1977-1986

	1977	1980	1984	1985	1986
3 and 4 Year Olds					
Total Enrolled	32%	37%	36%	39%	39%
White	31%	36%	36%	39%	39%
Black	35%	38%	38%	43%	38%
Hispanic	20%	29%	24%	27%	29%
5 Year Olds					
Total Enrolled	82%	85%	84%	87%	87%
White	83%	86%	85%	88%	88%
Black	80%	80%	80%	82%	83%
Hispanic	79%	78%	78%	79%	83%

Note: For the purposes of this analysis, low income is defined as less than $5,000 in 1977 and less than $10,000 for 1980 and 1984-86. Pre-primary enrollment refers to pre-kindergarten and kindergarten enrollment in regular public schools and enrollment in independently operated public and private nursery schools and kindergartens.

Source: Calculations by Child Trends, Inc., from unpublished data from the Current Population Survey provided by the Education and Social Stratification Branch of the Bureau of the Census, 1988.

59. **High School Graduation Ratios**. The proportion of students graduating from high school on time has remained in the 70-75 percent range since the high point of 77 percent in 1970. The ratio continues to be slightly higher for girls. In 1986, the graduation ratio for black students was between that of whites and Hispanics, although the magnitude of difference between the Hispanics and blacks was greater than that between the white and black students. Fewer than 50 percent of Hispanic students graduated on time in 1986.

Number of High School Graduates
Per 100 Persons 17 Years of Age, 1960-1987

	1960	1970	1975	1980	1983	1985	1986	1987
Total	69.5	76.9	73.6	71.4	73.3	73.2	73.0	72.9
Males	66.3	74.9	71.2	68.6	71.4	na	70.0	na
Females	72.8	78.9	76.1	74.3	75.4	na	76.0	na
Race/Hispanic Origin[1]								
White							74.0	
Black							67.5	
Hispanic[2]							46.0	

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[1] Data on race/Hispanic origin were calculated only for 1986.

[2] Hispanics may be of any race.

Note: The graduation ratio equals the number of high school graduates divided by the derived resident population of 17 year olds for October of the year in question. The graduation ratio does not represent the proportion who will ultimately complete high school. Rather, the graduation ratio approximates the proportion who graduate on time, and reflects changes over time and group differences.

Source: Calculated from the Digest of Education Statistics 1988, National Center for Education Statistics, U.S. Department of Education, Tables 77 and 271. Population estimates derived from Current Population Reports, Series P-25, No. 311; No. 519, Table 2; No. 917, Table 2; and No. 1022, Table 2.

60. **High School Dropout and College Entrance**. High school dropout rates are relatively high among minority students (other than Asian) and students of low socioeconomic status. Seniors who enter college are disproportionately Asian-American or of high socioeconomic status.

Of those who do enroll in college, only a minority will earn a four-year degree. Overall, 30 percent of students going on to college will gain a degree within six years of their final year of high school. Students from higher income and education families are most likely to earn a degree. Whites and Asian-Americans, with college completion rates of 32 percent, are twice as likely as blacks and Hispanics to earn a college degree. Only 12 percent of Hispanic students, 17 percent of black students, and 18 percent of Native American students enrolled in college earned a degree during this period.

1982 and 1986 School Status of 1980 High School Students

	Sophomores in 1980 who did not graduate by:		Seniors in 1980 who enrolled in college	Percent of those enrolled who earned a 4-year degree by 1986
	Spring 1982	1986		
Total	17%	8%	70%	30%
Sex				
Male	18%	9%	68%	30%
Female	15%	8%	72%	29%
Race/Hispanic Origin				
White	14%	7%	71%	32%
Black	22%	11%	67%	17%
Hispanic	28%	17%	61%	12%
Asian	7%	2%	91%	32%
American Indian	33%	25%	64%	18%
Socioeconomic Status				
High	6%	2%	91%	43%
Medium	12%	5%	71%	25%
Low	19%	11%	54%	15%

Source: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Analysis Report, "High School and Beyond. A Descriptive Summary of 1980 High School Sophomores: Six Years Later," Appendix C, p. C-1, June 1988; "High School and Beyond. A Descriptive Summary of 1980 High School Seniors: Six Years Later," Appendix C, pp. C-1 and C-5, July 1988.

61. **Educational Programs for the Handicapped**. About 11 percent of the public school population is served by handicapped education programs. This represents a 20 percent increase since the implementation of the Education of the Handicapped laws in school year 1978-79. The number of students served has increased by 12 percent between 1976-77 and 1986-87. However, at the same time, an overall decrease took place in total public school enrollment. The categories with the largest increases in service population are learning disabled and seriously emotionally disturbed, increasing by 140 per cent and 35 percent, respectively, during this period.

Percentage of Total Public School Enrollment Receiving Special Education, by Type of Handicap, 1976-77 to 1986-87

Type of Handicap	1976-77	1978-79	1980-81	1984-85	1985-86	1986-87
All Conditions	8.33%	9.14%	10.11%	10.98%	10.93%	10.97%
Learning Disabled[1]	1.80%	2.66%	3.57%	4.66%	4.71%	4.80%
Speech Impaired	2.94%	2.85%	2.85%	2.87%	2.85%	2.85%
Mentally Retarded[2]	2.16%	2.12%	2.02%	1.77%	1.67%	1.61%
Seriously Emotionally Disturbed	.64%	.71%	.85%	.95%	.95%	.96%
Hearing Impaired	.20%	.20%	.19%	.17%	.17%	.16%
Orthopedically Hand.	.20%	.16%	.14%	.14%	.14%	.14%
Visually Handicapped	.09%	.08%	.08%	.07%	.07%	.07%
Deaf-Blind	na	.01%	.01%	<.005%	.01%	<.005%
Other Health Impaired	.32%	.25%	.24%	.17%	.14%	.13%
Multihandicapped	na	.12%	.17%	.17%	.22%	.24%

Type of Handicap	Number of Children Served (in Thousands) 1976-77	1978-79	1980-81	1984-85	1985-86	1986-87
All Conditions	3,692	3,889	4,142	4,315	4,317	4,374
Learning Disabled[1]	796	1,130	1,462	1,832	1,862	1,914
Speech Impaired	1,302	1,214	1,168	1,126	1,125	1,136
Mentally Retarded[2]	959	901	829	694	660	643
Seriously Emotionally Disturbed	283	300	346	372	375	383
Hearing Impaired	87	85	79	69	66	65
Orthopedically Hand.	87	70	58	56	57	57
Visually Handicapped	38	32	31	28	27	26
Deaf-Blind	na	2	3	2	2	2
Other Health Impaired	141	105	98	68	57	52
Multihandicapped	na	50	68	69	86	97

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[1] Increases in the number of learning disabled children may be due in part to the following: (1) eligibility criteria permitting children with a wide range of learning problems to be classified as such; (2) social acceptance and/or preference for the learning disabled classification; (3) reclassification of some mentally retarded children as learning disabled; and (4) lack of general education alternatives for children who are experiencing learning problems in general classrooms.

[2] The significant decrease in the number of mentally retarded children may be due to the reclassification from mentally retarded to learning disabled, as well as the re-evaluation of some minority students who were classified as mentally retarded.

Note: The availability of special resources for disabled students has been significantly increased as a result of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and P.L. 94-142, The Education for All Handicapped Children Act of 1975. Implementation of the regulations for these laws came into effect in 1977 and school year 1978-79, respectively.

Data are for the 50 states and D.C. only (i.e., figures from the U.S. territories and Bureau of Indian Affairs are not included).

Source: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, The Condition of Education, 1988, Table 1:18-1.

62. **Enrollment of Preschool Handicapped Children**. The enrollment of preschool handicapped children in federally-funded preschool programs has increased 47 percent since the inception of the Education for All Handicapped Children Act of 1976. The percentage of such children has remained between 2 and 3 percent for all years, however. In addition to coverage under Public Law 94-142, handicapped preschool children may receive education under Chapter I funds provided to states. The first year data on such preschool children are available is 1987-88. Thus, the true percentage of children aged 3 to 5 receiving federally-funded preschool education is currently just under 3 percent.

Number of Handicapped Children Aged Three to Five In Federally-Funded Preschool Programs, 1976-77 to 1987-88

	1976-77	1980-81	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88
Number Served (PL 94-142)	196,223	233,793	260,931	265,447	288,466
Number Served (including Chapter I)[1]	na	na	na	na	336,991
Percent of All Children Aged 3 to 5[2]	2.08%	2.47%	2.41%	2.44%	2.62%

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[1] Data for children aged 3 to 5 are only available for the school year 1987-1988.

[2] Percentages represent the percentage of all children aged 3 to 5 that are served under Part B of the Education of the Handicapped Act, P.L. 94-142.

Source: U.S. Department of Education, Eleventh Annual Report to Congress on the Implementation of the Education of the Handicapped Act, P.L. 94-142, 1989.

63. **Reading Achievement.** Since 1970-71, reading proficiency scores have increased modestly for the three age groups tested: 9-, 13-, and 17-year olds. The gains for blacks have exceeded those for whites, but scores for blacks remain considerably lower in comparison with whites. The reading proficiency of girls remains slightly above that for boys.

National Assessment of Educational Progress
Reading Proficiency Scores, 1970-71 to 1986

Student Groups	1970-71	1974-75	1979-80	1983-84	(1986)[1]
Total					
9-year olds	207	210	214	213	(38.1)
13-year olds	254	255	257	258	(48.9)
17-year olds	284	285	285	288	(56.1)
Race/Hispanic Origin, Age 9					
White	214	216	220	220	(39.8)
Black	169	182	189	188	(33.3)
Hispanic	na	183	189	193	(33.2)
Race/Hispanic Origin, Age 13					
White	260	261	263	263	(50.3)
Black	220	224	232	237	(45.2)
Hispanic	na	231	236	239	(44.4)
Race/Hispanic Origin, Age 17					
White	290	291	291	295	(57.3)
Black	241	244	246	264	(51.5)
Hispanic	na	255	262	269	(51.3)
Sex, Age 9					
Male	201	204	209	210	(37.3)
Female	213	215	219	216	(38.9)
Sex, Age 13					
Male	248	248	253	254	(47.5)
Female	260	261	262	262	(50.3)
Sex, Age 17					
Male	278	279	281	283	(54.5)
Female	290	290	288	293	(57.7)

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[1] Results for 1986 are not directly comparable to the other years. Suspiciously large declines among third and 11th graders, not confirmed by other reports, led the National Assessment for Educational Progress staff to regard these data as not comparable with those for previous years, and they are not released in the same format.

Note: The means for years prior to 1986 represent general reading proficiency scores on a 0-500 scale. (A score in the 150 range represents "rudimentary" reading ability; in the 200 range, "basic" proficiency; 250, "intermediate" proficiency; 300, "adept" reading skills; and 350, "advanced" reading ability.) National Assessment test results are based on national probability samples of students at the specified age levels. Reading tests were conducted in 1971, 1975, 1980, 1984, and 1986 for 9- and 17-year olds, and in 1970, 1974, 1979, 1983 and 1986 for 13-year olds.

Source: The Reading Report Card, Educational Testing Service, 1985, and Who Reads Best?, Educational Testing Service, 1988.

64. Science Achievement. After declining in the seventies, science achievement has been increasing slightly through the eighties. However, with the exception of 9-year olds, median scores have not reached their 1969 level. The 17-year olds have shown the largest drop -- a decline of 5.5 percent. Young black children have made the largest gains, increasing nearly 10 percent between 1969 and 1985. Although the gap between black and white children has been slowly closing, average scores continue to be lower for black children. Males consistently score higher than females, with the differences between the two greater for the older students.

National Asessment of Educational Progress Science Proficiency Scores, by Age, Sex, and Race/Hispanic Origin, 1969-70 to 1985-86

Student Groups	1969-70[1]	1972-73[1]	1976-77	1981-82	1985-86	Percent Change 1969-86
9-Yr.Olds	224.9	220.3	219.9	220.9	224.3	-.3%
Sex						
Male	227.6	222.5	222.1	221.0	227.3	-.1%
Female	222.7	218.4	217.7	220.7	221.3	-.6%
Race/Hisp. Origin						
White	235.9	231.1	229.6	229.1	231.9	-1.7%
Black	178.7	176.5	174.9	187.1	196.2	9.9%
Hispanic	na	na	191.9	189.0	199.4	
13-Yr.Olds	254.9	249.5	247.4	250.2	251.4	-1.4%
Sex						
Male	256.8	251.7	251.1	255.7	256.1	-.3%
Female	253.0	247.1	243.8	245.0	246.9	-2.5%
Race/Hisp. Origin						
White	263.4	258.6	256.1	257.3	259.2	-1.6%
Black	214.9	205.3	208.1	217.2	221.6	3.3%
Hispanic	na	na	213.4	225.5	226.1	
17-Yr.Olds	304.8	295.8	289.6	283.3	288.5	-5.5%
Sex						
Male	313.8	304.3	297.1	291.9	294.9	-6.2%
Female	296.7	288.3	282.3	275.2	282.3	-5.0%
Race/Hisp. Origin						
White	311.8	303.9	297.7	293.2	297.5	-4.7%
Black	257.8	250.4	240.3	234.8	252.8	-2.0%
Hispanic	na	na	262.3	248.7	259.3	

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[1] Data for 1969-70 and 1972-73 are extrapolated by NAEP from previous NAEP analyses.

Note: The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) test results are based on national probability samples of students at the specified age levels. Different tests were used for each age, so comparisons among age groups for any given year are inappropriate. Trend data are based on items comparable to all tests and, consequently, comparison across years for any given age group is appropriate.

The means represent a weighted composite of five subscales: Life Sciences, Chemistry, Physics, Earth and Space Sciences, and the Nature of Science. A score of 150 represents knowledge of everyday science facts; level 200 represents understanding simple scientific principles; level 250 application of basic scientific information; level 300 analysis of scientific procedures and data; and level 350 represents the integration of specialized scientific information.

Source: The National Assessment of Educational Progress, The Science Report Card: Elements of Risk and Recovery, Educational Testing Service, Figures 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, September 1988.

65. **Mathematics Achievement.** After declining in the 1970s, mathematics achievement for all age groups has been increasing slightly into the mid 1980s. Although the 9- and 13-year olds have surpassed their 1972 scores, 17-year olds have failed to do so. As a result of significant gains in math achievement among black students, the gap between whites and blacks has been steadily decreasing, particularly at the younger ages. The performance of boys and girls at the younger ages are nearly equal, but boys score slightly higher at age 17.

National Assessment of Educational Progress Mathematics Achievement Scores, by Age, Sex, and Race/Hispanic Origin, 1972-73 to 1985-86

Student Groups	1972-73[1]	1977-78	1981-82	1985-86	Percent Change 1972-86
9-Yr.Olds	219.1	218.6	219.0	221.7	1.2%
Sex					
Male	217.7	217.4	217.1	221.7	1.8%
Female	220.4	219.9	220.8	221.7	.6%
Race/Hispanic Origin					
White	224.9	224.1	224.0	226.9	.9%
Black	190.0	192.4	194.9	201.6	6.1%
Hispanic	202.1	202.9	204.0	205.4	1.6%
13-Yr.Olds	266.0	264.1	268.6	269.0	1.1%
Sex					
Male	265.1	263.6	269.2	270.0	1.8%
Female	266.9	264.7	268.0	268.0	.4%
Race/Hispanic Origin					
White	273.7	271.6	274.4	273.6	-.1%
Black	227.7	229.6	240.4	249.2	9.4%
Hispanic	238.8	238.0	252.4	254.3	6.5%
17-Yr.Olds	304.4	300.4	298.5	302.0	-.8%
Sex					
Male	308.5	303.8	301.5	304.7	-1.2%
Female	300.6	297.1	295.6	299.4	-.4%
Race/Hispanic Origin					
White	310.1	305.9	303.7	307.5	-.8%
Black	269.8	268.4	271.8	278.6	3.3%
Hispanic	277.2	276.3	276.7	283.1	2.1%

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[1] Data for 1972-73 are extrapolated by ETS from previous NAEP analyses.

Note: The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) test results are based on national probability samples of students at the specified age levels. Different tests were used for each age, so comparisons among age groups for any given year are inappropriate. Trend data are based on items comparable to all tests and, consequently, comparison across years for any given age group is appropriate.

The means represent weighted general mathematics proficiency on a 0 to 500 scale. Level 150 is simple arithmetic facts; level 200 is beginning skills and understanding; level 250 is basic operations and beginning problem solving; level 300 is moderately complex procedures and reasoning; and level 350 is multi-step problem solving and algebra.

Source: The National Assessment of Educational Progress, The Mathematics Report Card: Are We Measuring Up?, Educational Testing Service, Figures 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, June 1988.

66. **Computer Competence**. In the first national assessment of computer competence, children at all ages answered fewer than 50 percent of the questions correctly. Boys scored slightly higher than girls, with the gap larger for older students. Whites scored higher than blacks and Hispanics.

With regard to specific areas of computer competence, students performed best on questions about computer technology, which asked them to identify the major components of the computer and to answer general questions about computer operations. Within the category of computer applications, students performed best on word processing questions. Scores on questions about other applications, such as graphics and databases, were substantially lower.

Student scores were lowest on the computer programming section, which tested, depending on the grade level, knowledge of Logo, Basic and/or Pascal. Students across all grade levels correctly answered, on average, less than one-third of these questions.

National Assessment of Educational Progress
Overall Computer Competence Scores
(mean percent correct),
by Grade, Sex, and Race/Hispanic Origin,
1985-86

Student Groups	Grade 3	Grade 7	Grade 11
All Students	33.7%	41.2%	46.2%
Sex			
Male	34.3%	42.6%	47.6%
Female	33.0%	39.7%	44.8%
Race/Hispanic Origin			
White	34.9%	43.1%	47.6%
Black	29.4%	35.6%	39.9%
Hispanic	29.8%	36.1%	40.2%

Note: National Assessment test results are based on national probability samples of students at the specified grade levels. Computer competence was assessed by a written test covering three general categories: knowledge of computer technology, computer applications, and computer programming. Scores represent the average percent correct answers achieved by students in each of the three grade levels. Different tests were used for each age, so comparisons across age groups are inappropriate.

Source: The National Assessment of Educational Progress, Computer Competence: The First National Assessment, Educational Testing Service, April 1988.

67. **Exposure to Computers**. Computer exposure is widespread among today's children; over three-fourths of third, seventh and eleventh graders have used a computer. Although fewer blacks and Hispanics than whites report having used a computer, the racial/ethnic differences are less pronounced with respect to students currently studying computers. Among all age groups, the same proportion of males and females have used and are currently studying computers in school. However, racial and sex differences are large with respect to owning a computer. The likelihood of having a computer at home is highest for whites and males.

Proportion of Students Exposed to Computers, by Type of Exposure, Grade, Sex, and Race/Hispanic Origin, 1985-86

Type of Exposure	Grade 3	Grade 7	Grade 11
Has Used a Computer			
Total	75%	89%	87%
Sex			
Males	78%	90%	88%
Females	72%	88%	86%
Race/Ethnicity			
White	78%	92%	89%
Black	65%	81%	81%
Hispanic	69%	83%	80%
Currently Studying Computers[1]			
Total	48%	40%	21%
Sex			
Male	49%	41%	21%
Female	47%	39%	20%
Race/Ethnicity			
White	49%	41%	20%
Black	42%	35%	21%
Hispanic	48%	38%	19%
Has a Computer at Home			
Total	29%	33%	30%
Sex			
Male	31%	37%	35%
Female	26%	28%	25%
Race/Ethnicity			
White	30%	36%	32%
Black	25%	26%	22%
Hispanic	25%	21%	21%

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[1] The lower proportion for 11th graders may be explained in part by the timing of courses: most high school computer courses are taken before the eleventh grade.

Source: The National Assessment of Educational Progress, Computer Competence: The First National Assessment, Educational Testing Service, April 1988, Tables 3.1, 3.3, 3.8, and Figures 4.5 and 4.8, April 1988.

68. **Scholastic Aptitude Test Scores**. Average SAT scores have increased slightly since 1980, although they still have not reached 1963 levels. Males continue to score substantially higher than females on the math section and, since 1976, slightly higher on the verbal section. The increase in average scores for blacks since 1976 has helped narrow the gap between black and white students. Nonetheless, whites continue to score higher than blacks on both math and verbal, with the differences being slightly larger in math scores. The average scores for other racial and ethnic groups fall between the subgroups, with the exception of the Asian/Pacific group, whose math scores are consistently higher than all other groups.

Average Scholastic Aptitude Test Mathematics and Verbal Scores, by Sex, Race, and Ethnic Group, 1963-1987

	1963	1970	1976	1980	1985	1986	1987	Percent change 1963-87	Percent change 1980-87
Mathematics Score									
Overall Mean	502	488	472	466	475	475	476	-5.2%	2.1%
Sex									
Male	na	509	497	491	499	501	500		1.8%
Female	na	465	446	443	452	451	453		2.3%
Race									
White	na	na	493	482	491	na	489		1.5%
Black	na	na	354	360	376	na	377		4.7%
American Indian	na	na	420	426	428	na	432		1.4%
Asian/Pacific	na	na	518	509	518	na	521		2.4%
Ethnic Group									
Mex.Americans	na	na	410	413	426	na	424		2.7%
Puerto Ricans	na	na	401	394	409	na	400		1.5%
Verbal Score									
Overall Mean	478	460	431	424	431	431	430	-10.0%	1.4%
Sex									
Male	na	459	433	428	437	437	435		1.6%
Female	na	461	430	420	425	426	425		1.2%
Race									
White	na	na	451	442	449	na	447		1.1%
Black	na	na	332	330	346	na	351		6.4%
American Indian	na	na	388	390	392	na	393		.8%
Asian/Pacific	na	na	414	396	404	na	405		2.3%
Ethnic Group									
Mex.American	na	na	371	372	382	na	379		1.9%
Puerto Ricans	na	na	364	350	368	na	360		2.9%

Note: No race/ethnic group data are available prior to 1975-76. No race/ethnic data were available for 1985-86 due to changes in the Student Descriptive Questionaire completed when students registered for the test.

Source: U.S. Department of Education, Digest of Educational Statistics: 1988, Tables 88 and 89.

HEALTH AND HEALTH-RELATED BEHAVIORS

69. Life Expectancy. The life expectancy of newborns continues to rise steadily, if slowly. An infant at birth in 1986 could expect to live to nearly age 75, given the patterns of mortality prevailing in that year. Longevity is considerably higher for females than for males, and for whites than for blacks. Given the relatively high mortality in the first year of life compared to the remaining years of childhood, the age to which a person can expect to live rises nearly a year from birth to age 1. Throughout the rest of childhood it rises only another half year.

Average Age to Which People May Expect to Live, for Persons at Birth, Age 1, and Age 18, by Sex and Race, 1970-1987

	1970	1975	1980	1985	1986	1987*
At birth						
Total	70.8 yrs	72.6 yrs	73.7 yrs	74.7 yrs	74.8 yrs	74.9 yrs
Black males	60.0	62.4	63.8	65.3	65.2	65.4
White males	68.0	69.5	70.7	71.9	72.0	72.1
Black females	68.3	71.3	72.5	73.5	73.5	73.8
White females	75.6	77.3	78.1	78.7	78.8	78.8
At age 1						
Total	72.3	73.7	74.7	75.5	na	75.7
Black males	63.5	65.4	65.2	66.7	na	na
White males	69.4	70.6	71.6	72.6	na	na
Black females	71.4	74.0	73.7	74.8	na	na
White females	76.8	78.1	78.9	79.4	na	na
At age 18						
Total	73.0	74.3	75.2	76.0	na	na
Black males	64.5	66.1	65.9	67.1	na	na
White males	70.1	74.6	72.2	73.1	na	na
Black females	64.5	66.1	74.2	75.2	na	na
White females	77.3	78.6	79.3	79.7	na	na

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* Provisional data.

Note: Prior to 1980, data reported for blacks are for non-whites. Most non-whites are black. If the data were available for blacks alone, they would show slightly lower life expectancies.

Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Vital Statistics of the United States, Volume II. Mortality. Part A, for the years indicated, Tables 5 or 6.

70. **Prenatal Care**. In 1987, one birth in 17 was to a mother who received either late prenatal care or none at all. During the early 1970s, there was a substantial increase in the proportion of pregnant women receiving early prenatal care. The increase was especially marked among black women. During the 1980s, however, there has been no increase in the proportion of mothers receiving early care and no reduction in the percentage receiving late or no prenatal care. In fact, the proportion of black women receiving late or no prenatal care has risen slightly, and is twice as large as the proportion for white women.

Hispanic women, especially those of Puerto Rican and Mexican origin, are much less likely to receive early care than non-Hispanic women.

Percentage of Live Births
by Trimester Prenatal Care Began, Race, and Hispanic Origin, 1970-1987

	1970	1975	1980	1985	1986	1987
Prenatal care began						
First trimester						
All races and origins	68%	72%	76%	76%	76%	76%
White	72%	76%	79%	79%	79%	79%
Black	44%	56%	63%	62%	62%	61%
All Hispanic women	na	na	60%	61%	60%	61%
Cuban			83%	83%	82%	83%
Mexican			60%	60%	59%	60%
Puerto Rican			58%	58%	57%	57%
Non-Hispanic women			77%	77%	77%	77%
Third trimester or no prenatal care						
All races and origins	8%	6%	5%	6%	6%	6%
White	6%	5%	4%	5%	5%	5%
Black	17%	10%	9%	10%	11%	11%
All Hispanic women	na	na	12%	12%	13%	13%
Cuban			4%	4%	4%	4%
Mexican			12%	13%	13%	13%
Puerto Rican			16%	16%	17%	17%
Non-Hispanic women			5%	5%	6%	6%

Note: Non-Hispanic women are white, black, and other women not of Hispanic origin, in the same 23 states that report data on origin.

Source: National Center for Health Statistics, Health, United States, 1982, Table 24; Vital Statistics of the United States, 1985, Vol. I - Natality, Table 1-84. Monthly Vital Statistics Report, Vol. 31, No. 8, Supplement, November 1982, Tables 13, 20; Vol. 35, No. 4, Supplement, July 1986, Table 25; Vol. 36, No. 4, Supplement, July 1987, Table 25; Vol. 37, No. 3, Supplement, July 1988, Table 30; and Vol. 38, No. 3, Supplement, June 1989, Tables 27 and 30. Birth figures for Hispanic women in 1985-87 are based on data for 23 states and the District of Columbia which report Hispanic origin of the mother on the birth certificate. These states accounted for 90 percent of the Hispanic population in 1980. Hispanic data for 1980 from: Monthly Vital Statistics Report, Vol. 32, No. 6, Supplement, September 1983, Table 13 (based on 22 states).

71. **Prenatal Care and Maternal Characteristics.** More than three-quarters of the women who had babies in 1986 initiated prenatal care during their first trimester. The younger the mother, the less likely she was to obtain prenatal care early, and the more likely she was to obtain care only in the third trimester or not to obtain care at all. One in five mothers aged 14 or younger obtained late or no prenatal care. Mothers with less than a high school education were less apt to get early prenatal care than mothers with more education. Late prenatal care and the total lack of care were also more common among unmarried mothers in comparison with married mothers, and among blacks in comparison with whites.

Percent Distribution of Live Births By Month Prenatal Care Began And Mother's Age, Education, Marital Status, and Race, 1986

		Month Care Began			
	All months	1st-3rd month	4th-6th month	7th-9th month	No Pre-natal care
All live births	100.0%	75.9%	18.1%	4.1%	1.9%
Mother's age at birth of child					
Less than 15	100.0%	36.1%	43.1%	14.2%	6.6%
15-17	100.0%	48.6%	37.4%	9.8%	4.2%
18-19	100.0%	56.1%	32.2%	8.2%	3.5%
20-24	100.0%	70.7%	21.8%	5.1%	2.3%
25-34	100.0%	83.7%	12.5%	2.5%	1.2%
35 or more	100.0%	81.8%	13.6%	2.9%	1.6%
Mother's education					
0-8 years	100.0%	52.6%	32.2%	10.2%	5.0%
9-11 years	100.0%	58.0%	30.3%	7.8%	4.0%
12 years	100.0%	77.0%	18.0%	3.5%	1.5%
13-15 years	100.0%	84.7%	12.4%	2.1%	.8%
16 years or more	100.0%	92.0%	6.7%	1.0%	.3%
Mother's marital status					
Married	100.0%	82.3%	13.9%	2.8%	1.0%
Unmarried	100.0%	54.9%	31.7%	8.5%	4.9%
Mother's race					
White	100.0%	79.2%	15.9%	3.5%	1.5%
Black	100.0%	61.6%	27.9%	6.6%	4.0%

Source: National Center for Health Statistics, "Advance Report of Final Natality Statistics, 1986," Monthly Vital Statistics Report, Vol. 37, No. 3, Supplement, July 1988, Table 30; and Vital Statistics of the United States, 1986, Tables 1-45 and 1-46.

72. **Low Birth Weight.** There was a slight decline in the proportion of children born with a low birth weight during the 1970s, but there has been no further progress during the 1980s. There has also been essentially no decline in the proportion of children born with an extremely low birth weight. Black children continue to be twice as likely to be born with a low birth weight. Puerto Rican children are more likely to be of low birth weight than children from other Hispanic groups or non-Hispanic children.

Percentage of Live Births of Low Birth Weight (Less Than 2500 and Less Than 1500 Grams), 1960-1987

	1960	1970	1975	1980	1985	1986	1987
Low birth weight							
Less than 2,500 grams							
All races and origins	7.7%	7.9%	7.4%	6.8%	6.8%	6.8%	6.9%
White	6.8%	6.8%	6.3%	5.7%	5.6%	5.6%	5.7%
Black*	12.8%	13.9%	13.1%	12.5%	12.4%	12.5%	12.7%
Hispanic origin	na	na	na	6.1%	6.2%	6.9%	6.2%
Cuban				5.6%	6.0%	5.5%	5.9%
Mexican				5.6%	5.8%	5.6%	5.7%
Puerto Rican				8.9%	8.7%	9.2%	9.3%
Non-Hispanic origin				7.0%	6.9%	7.0%	7.1%
Less than 1,500 grams							
All races	1.2%	1.2%	1.1%	1.2%	1.2%	1.2%	1.2%
White	1.0%	1.0%	.9%	.9%	.9%	.9%	.9%
Black*	2.1%	2.4%	2.3%	2.4%	2.7%	2.7%	2.7%

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* In 1960, data are for all non-whites.

Note: Prior to 1979, low birth weight and extremely low birth weight were defined as weighing 2,500 grams or less and weighing 1,500 grams or less, respectively. In 1979, the definition was changed so that low birth weight was defined as weighing less than 2,500 grams and extremely low birthweight as weighing less than 1,500 grams. The pounds and ounces equivalents of these figures are as follows:

2,500 grams or less = 5 lbs. 9 oz. or less;
1,500 grams or less = 3 lbs. 5 oz. or less;
Less than 2,500 grams = 5 lbs. 8 oz. or less;
Less than 1,500 grams = 3 lbs. 4 oz. or less.

Non-Hispanic infants are white, black, and other infants not of Hispanic origin in the same 23 states that report data on origin.

Source: National Center for Health Statistics, Health, United States, 1982, Table 24; Monthly Vital Statistics Report, Vol. 31, No. 8, Supplement, November, 1982, Tables 13, 20, Vol. 35, No. 4, Supplement, July 1986, Table 25; Vol. 38, No. 3, Supplement, June 1989, Tables 27 and 29. Birth figures for Hispanic infants in 1985-87 are based on data for 23 States and the District of Columbia which report Hispanic origin of the mother on the birth certificate. These states accounted for 90 percent of the Hispanic population in 1980.

73. **Birth Weight According to Mother's Age and Race**. Very young mothers are most likely to bear low birth weight babies. The incidence of low birth weight declines for women in their twenties and early thirties, but rises again for older mothers. Despite the decline in the incidence of low birth weight during the 1970s, children born to young and black mothers remain disproportionately likely to be of low birth weight.

Percent of Live Births That Were of Low Birth Weight, by Mother's Age and Race, 1960-1987

Mother's Age and Race	1960	1970	1975	1980	1985	1986	1987
All Races							
All Ages	7.7%	7.9%	7.4%	6.8%	6.8%	6.8%	6.9%
<15	16.0%	16.6%	14.1%	14.6%	12.9%	13.8%	13.7%
15-17	9.9%	10.5%	11.1%	10.5%	10.2%	10.3%	10.2%
18-19			9.3%	8.8%	8.7%	8.7%	8.8%
20-24	7.4%	7.4%	7.1%	6.9%	6.9%	7.0%	7.1%
25-29	6.9%	6.9%	6.1%	5.8%	5.9%	6.0%	6.1%
30-34	7.5%	7.5%	6.8%	5.9%	6.0%	6.1%	6.2%
35-39	7.9%	8.7%	8.2%	7.0%	6.9%	6.9%	6.9%
40+	8.4%	9.2%	9.5%	8.3%	8.4%	8.3%	7.9%
Whites							
All Ages	6.8%	6.8%	6.3%	5.7%	5.6%	5.6%	5.7%
<15	11.5%	12.5%	11.3%	11.2%	10.5%	11.1%	10.4%
15-17	8.3%	8.6%	8.1%	8.6%	8.4%	8.5%	8.4%
18-19				7.2%	7.3%	7.2%	7.3%
20-24	6.5%	6.4%	6.0%	5.7%	5.7%	5.7%	5.8%
25-29	6.2%	6.2%	5.4%	5.0%	5.0%	5.1%	5.1%
30-34	6.7%	6.7%	6.1%	5.1%	5.2%	5.2%	5.2%
35-39	7.3%	7.8%	7.3%	6.2%	6.0%	6.0%	6.0%
40+	7.9%	8.4%	8.7%	7.4%	7.4%	7.1%	7.1%
Blacks*							
All Ages	12.8%	13.9%	13.1%	12.5%	12.4%	12.5%	12.7%
<15	18.8%	19.1%	16.2%	17.2%	14.8%	15.8%	16.2%
15-17	15.9%	15.7%	14.8%	14.2%	13.9%	13.6%	13.4%
18-19				13.7%	13.0%	12.8%	12.8%
20-24	12.6%	13.4%	12.8%	12.6%	12.0%	12.2%	12.3%
25-29	11.5%	12.2%	11.2%	11.2%	12.0%	12.2%	12.5%
30-34	11.9%	12.3%	11.8%	11.1%	12.4%	12.5%	13.0%
35-39	11.8%	13.4%	13.2%	11.7%	12.7%	12.9%	13.4%
40+	11.1%	12.9%	13.0%	12.3%	13.7%	14.7%	12.9%

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* 1960 data are for all non-whites.

Note: Since 1979, low birth weight has been defined as less than 2500 grams or 5 pounds 8 ounces or less. (See note to Table 3.)

Source: National Center for Health Statistics, Monthly Vital Statistics Report, "Advance Report of Final Natality Statistics," Vol. 35, No. 4, Supplement, Table 15; Vol. 31, No. 8, Supplement, Table 13; "Trends in Births to Older Mothers," by Stephanie Ventura, Vol. 31, No. 2, Supplement (2), Table 8; "Advance Report of Final Natality Statistics," Vol. 36, No. 4, Supplement, Table 15; Vol. 37, No. 3, Supplement, Table 15; and Vol. 38, No. 3, Supplement, June 1989, Table 15.

74. **Infant Mortality**. In contrast to the dramatic decline in the rate of infant mortality between 1950 and 1980, progress on reducing infant deaths has slowed to almost a halt in recent years. The rate remains nearly twice as high among black infants as among white infants.

Infant Deaths per 1,000 Live Births, 1950-1988

	1950	1960	1970	1975	1980	1985	1986	1987	1988
All Races	29.2	26.0	20.0	16.1	12.6	10.6	10.4	10.0*	9.9*
Whites	26.8	22.9	17.8	14.2	11.0	9.3	8.9	na	na
Blacks	43.9	44.3	32.6	26.2	21.4	18.2	18.0	na	na
Hispanics							8.0		
Mexican							7.7		
Puerto Rican							8.6		
Cuban							5.5		
Other Hispanic							9.1		

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* Provisional data.

Note: The infant mortality rate is the number of deaths of children under age 1 per 1,000 live births. It is not a percentage.

Sources: Hispanic rates are based on data from 18 reporting states and the District of Columbia. National Center for Health Statistics, "Advance Report of Final Mortality Statistics, 1986," Monthly Vital Statistics Report, Vol. 37, No. 6, Supplement, Table 13 and 20; "Annual Summary, 1987," Monthly Vital Statistics Report, Vol. 36, No. 13, Table 11; "Births, Marriages, Divorces, and Deaths for 1988," Monthly Vital Statistics Report, Vol. 37, No. 12.

75. **Perinatal Mortality**. The incidence of death among infants during the last weeks of gestation and the first week of life has declined steadily since 1950. The continued decline during the last decade is in contrast to the infant mortality rate. As with infant mortality, the perinatal mortality ratio is considerably higher among blacks than whites.

Perinatal Death Ratio, 1950-1985

	1950	1960	1970	1975	1980	1985
All Races	33.0	28.9	23.2	17.9	13.3	10.8
White	30.5	26.5	21.1	16.2	11.9	9.6
All Other	48.1	42.4	33.2	25.3	18.9	15.3
Black	na	na	na	na	20.9	17.5

Note: The perinatal death ratio is the number of spontaneous deaths occurring after 28 weeks of gestation plus deaths to infants during the first seven days after birth per 1,000 live births.

Source: National Center for Health Statistics, Eve Powell-Griner, Monthly Vital Statistics Report, Vol. 37, No. 10, Supplement, February 1989, Table 1.

76. **Deaths of Infants and Young Children Due to Homicide and Undetermined Injury**. Deaths among infants and young children due to homicide and undetermined injury are representative of the more extreme forms of child abuse. In 1986, there were approximately 9 deaths per 100,000 infants due to undetermined injury or homicide, and 3 such deaths per 100,000 children between the ages of one and four. These rates of violent death have tended to fluctuate within fairly narrow ranges since 1970, with 1986 figures all on the high end of the respective ranges.

Homicide and Undetermined Injury Death Rates for Infants and Children Aged 1-4, 1960-1986

	1960	1965	1970	1975	1980	1982	1984	1985	1986
Homicide and Undetermined Injury Deaths (rate per 100,000)									
Infants	na	na	7.9	8.9	7.8	8.7	8.1	6.7	8.8
Children 1-4	na	na	3.2	3.6	3.3	3.2	2.8	2.9	3.1
Homicide (rate per 100,000)									
Infants	4.8	5.5	4.3	5.8	5.9	6.7	6.5	5.3	7.4
Children 1-4	0.7	1.1	1.9	2.5	2.5	2.7	2.4	2.4	2.7

Note: "Homicide and Undetermined" is the sum of the homicide victimization rate and the death rate due to "injury undetermined whether accidentally or purposefully inflicted."

Source: National Center for Health Statistics, Vital Statistics of the United States, Vol. II. Mortality, Part A, various years; and unpublished data provided by the Statistical Resources Branch. Also: Philip J. Cook and John H. Laub, "Trends in child abuse and juvenile delinquency," unpublished manuscript, May 1985.

77. **Death Rates for Children and Young Adults by Age Group.** Death rates for preschool and school-aged children have declined substantially over the last three decades, reflecting the conquest of many childhood diseases and the success of accident prevention efforts. Mortality trends for teenagers and young adults have been quite different from those for younger children. Death rates for the older groups actually rose during the 1960s and early 1970s, reflecting increases in motor vehicle accidents, homicide, suicide, and other external causes of death. Rates declined during the first half of the 1980s due to reductions in some of the same causes of death. Based on the most recent data, however, adolescent and young adult death rates appear to be climbing again.

Death Rates for Persons Under 25, By Age Group, 1960-1986

				Year				Percent Change,
Age Group	1960	1970	1980	1982	1984	1985	1986	1960-1986
1-4 years	109.1	84.5	63.9	57.6	51.9	51.4	52.0	-52%
5-14 years	46.4	41.3	30.6	28.3	26.7	26.3	26.0	-44%
15-19 years	88.3	110.3	97.9	86.0	81.0	81.2	87.2	-1%
20-24 years	120.4	148.0	132.7	114.6	110.7	108.9	116.1	-4%

Note: Death rate = deaths per 100,000 population in specified age group.

Source: National Center for Health Statistics, "Annual Summary of Births, Marriages, Divorces, and Deaths: United States, 1985," *Monthly Vital Statistics Report*, 34, No. 13, 1986; and unpublished data provided by the Statistical Resources Branch.

78. **Leading Causes of Child Death by Age Group**. Children are most at risk of dying in the first year of life. In 1986, there were nearly 39,000 infant deaths in the U.S., for a death rate of about 1,000 deaths per 100,000 live births, or about 1 percent. After the first year, death rates fell steeply, to 52 deaths per 100,000 children aged 1-4, and 26 deaths per 100,000 children aged 5-14. Death rates rose again to 102 per 100,000 in adolescence and young adulthood (ages 15-24).

The major causes of death also change with age. In the first year of life, the leading causes of death are birth defects, the sudden infant death syndrome, and syndromes and problems that arise out of pregnancy, childbirth, and the period shortly after birth. After the first year, accidental injury is the leading cause of death to young people. Motor vehicle accidents play a major role, especially during adolescence and young adulthood. Homicide was the second leading cause of death in the 15-24 age range, and among the top ten causes for 1-4 and 5-14 year olds. Suicide was the third leading cause of death among 15-24 year olds, and one of the top ten causes for 5-14 year olds.

Number of Deaths and Death Rate in 1986 for Leading Causes of Child Death, By Age Group

Under 1 Year

Rank Order	Cause of Death	Number of Deaths	Death Rate
	All causes	38,891	1,035.3
1	Congenital anomalies (birth defects)	8,244	219.5
2	Sudden infant death syndrome	5,278	140.5
3	Respiratory distress syndrome	3,403	90.6
4	Disorders relating to short gestation and low birth weight	3,245	86.4
5	Newborn affected by maternal complications of pregnancy	1,355	36.1
6	Intrauterine hypoxia and birth asphyxia	983	26.2
7	Infections specific to the perinatal period	918	24.4
8	Accidents and adverse effects	909	24.2
9	Newborn affected by complications of placenta, cord, and membranes	836	22.3
10	Pneumonia and influenza	663	17.6
	Homicide	278	7.4
	- child battering and maltreatment	106	2.8
	- other homicide	172	4.6
	All other causes	12,779	340.2

1-4 Years

Rank Order	Cause of Death	Number of Deaths	Death Rate
	All causes	7,480	52.0
1	Accidents and adverse effects	2,934	20.4
	- Motor vehicle accidents	1,005	7.0
	- All other accidents	1,929	13.4
2	Congenital anomalies (birth defects)	879	6.1
3	Cancer, leukemia	569	4.0
4	Homicide	382	2.7
5	Heart disease	366	2.5
6	Pneumonia and influenza	199	1.4
7	Meningitis	144	1.0
8	Conditions orginating in the perinatal period	132	0.9
9	Septicemia	90	0.6
10	Meningococcal infection	64	0.4
	All other causes	1,721	12.0

(continued)

Number of Deaths and Death Rate in 1986 for Leading Causes of Child Death, By Age Group (continued)

5-14 Years

Rank Order	Cause of Death	Number of Deaths	Death Rate
	All causes	8,788	26.0
1	Accidents and adverse effects	4,226	12.5
	- Motor vehicle accidents	2,350	6.9
	- All other accidents	1,876	5.5
2	Cancer, leukemia	1,165	3.4
3	Congenital anomalies (birth defects)	453	1.3
4	Homicide	379	1.1
5	Heart disease	310	0.9
6	Suicide	255	0.8
7	Pneumonia and influenza	147	0.4
8	Asthma and other chronic obstructive pulmonary diseases	106	0.3
9	Carcinoma and other tumors	90	0.3
10	Cerebrovascular diseases (stroke)	73	0.2
	All other causes	1,584	4.7

15-24 Years

Rank Order	Cause of Death	Number of Deaths	Death Rate
	All causes	39,929	102.3
1	Accidents and adverse effects	19,975	51.2
	- Motor vehicle accidents	15,227	39.0
	- All other accidents	4,748	12.2
2	Homicide	5,522	14.2
3	Suicide	5,120	13.1
4	Cancer, leukemia	2,115	5.4
5	Heart disease	1,096	2.8
6	Congenital anomalies (birth defects)	511	1.3
7	Pneumonia and influenza	276	0.7
8	Cerebrovascular diseases (stroke)	263	0.7
9	Asthma and other chronic obstructive pulmonary diseases	191	0.5
10	Diabetes mellitus	140	0.4
	All other causes	4,720	12.1

Note: Death rates for those under 1 year are deaths per 100,000 live births. Death rates for other age groups are deaths per 100,000 population in age group.

Source: National Center for Health Statistics, "Advance Report of Final Mortality Statistics, 1986," Monthly Vital Statistics Report, Vol. 37, No. 6, Supplement, September 30, 1988, Tables 7, 14, and 15.

79. **Motor-Vehicle Accident Deaths Among Teenagers**. Over 7,900 teenagers aged 12-19 died in 1986 as a result of motor-vehicle accidents. Although this number is substantially less than it was in 1979, there was actually a slight increase in both number and rate per 100,000 teens between 1985 and 1986. Compared to females, teen males are two to three times as likely to be victims; whites are more than twice as likely to be victims as blacks. Not surprisingly, those of legal driving age (15-19) are much more at risk than younger (12-14) teens.

Number of Motor Vehicle Deaths, 1979-1986

Population Groups	1979	1980	1982	1984	1985	1986
All teenagers						
Ages 12-14	1,062	1,014	896	871	908	907
Ages 15-19	9,519	9,100	6,940	6,495	6,282	6,997

Motor Vehicle Death Rates

(per 100,000 persons in age group)

Population Groups	1979	1980	1982	1984	1985	1986
All teenagers						
Ages 12-14	9.4	9.3	8.2	7.9	8.6	9.1
Ages 15-19	44.6	43.0	35.0	34.6	33.9	37.6
White males						
Ages 12-14	12.7	12.7	11.5	10.6	11.6	12.4
Ages 15-19	72.1	69.1	56.5	54.4	51.9	58.4
White females						
Ages 12-14	7.4	6.8	6.0	6.4	6.7	6.9
Ages 15-19	25.7	25.6	20.7	22.1	22.8	24.8
Black males						
Ages 12-14	7.7	8.9	7.3	6.8	9.6	9.0
Ages 15-19	24.5	24.4	20.9	21.2	21.9	25.6
Black females						
Ages 12-14	2.9	3.0	3.8	1.7	2.6	3.1
Ages 15-19	8.7	6.7	7.7	7.0	7.5	8.0

Source: National Center for Health Statistics, unpublished work tables prepared by the Mortality Statistics Branch, Division of Vital Statistics, 1989.

80. **Teenage Motor Vehicle Fatalities Involving Alcohol**. In 1987, nearly half of all teenage motor vehicle fatalities involved alcohol. However, the proportion of motor vehicle deaths involving alcohol has declined significantly since 1982, when it was 62 percent. While the proportion of deaths involving lower blood-alcohol levels has increased slightly, those involving clearly intoxicated persons has declined by 39 percent, thus accounting for the overall decrease between 1982 and 1987.

Proportion of Teenage Motor Vehicle Fatalities that Involved Alcohol, 1982-1987

	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987[1]	%Change 1982-87
Total Fatalities	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	
No Alcohol Involved	38%	43%	44%	49%	48%	51%	34%
Alcohol Involved[2]	62%	57%	56%	51%	52%	49%	-27%
Alcohol Related	15%	14%	15%	15%	16%	16%	7%
Intoxicated	46%	43%	40%	36%	36%	33%	-39%

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[1] In 1987, the Fatal Accident Reporting System reported 6,692 motor vehicle fatalities to persons aged 15-19. This count includes only those who died within 30 days of the motor vehicle accident.

[2] A motor vehicle fatality is considered alcohol involved if either a driver or non-occupant (usually a pedestrian) had a measurable or estimated blood alcohol concentration of 0.01 percent or above. If the blood alcohol concentration is between 0.01 percent and 0.09 percent, an accident is alcohol related. A driver or non-occupant whose blood alcohol concentration level is 0.10 percent or higher is considered intoxicated.

Source: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation, Fatal Accident Reporting System, 1987, December 1988, Figure 2-5.

81. **Homicide Deaths Among Children and Youth**. After declining through the early 1980s, homicide rates among children and youth increased between 1985 and 1986. In 1986, the rate for infants was at its highest point in over two decades. Overall, murders of children and youth continue to be much more common than they were two or three decades ago. Among children, the rates are higher for infants and preschoolers than for school-aged children. The 1986 rates for male youths were about three times the rates for female youths among whites, and four to five times higher among blacks.

In 1986, homicide rates for black youth were four to six times higher than those for white youth. The increase in homicide rates from 1985 to 1986 was most pronounced among black males aged 20-24, a group whose rates are consistently extremely high.

Number of Deaths by Homicide and Legal Intervention Per 100,000 Resident Population, by Age, Race and Sex, 1960-1986

Age Group	1960	1970	1975	1980	1984	1985	1986
Under 1 Year	4.8	4.3	5.8	5.9	6.5	5.3	7.4
1-4 Years	.7	1.9	2.5	2.5	2.4	2.4	2.7
5-14 Years	.5	.9	1.0	1.2	1.3	1.2	1.1
12-14 Years	na	na	na	1.7	1.8	1.8	2.0
15-17 Years	na	na	na	7.6	5.7	6.0	6.9
18-19 Years	na	na	na	15.0	12.1	12.5	14.8
Total Aged 15-24	5.9	11.7	13.7	15.6	12.0	12.1	14.2
Total Aged 15-19	na	8.1	9.6	10.6	8.3	8.6	10.0
Whites Aged 15-19							
Male	na	5.2	8.2	10.9	7.5	7.3	8.6
Female	na	2.1	3.2	3.9	3.2	2.7	3.3
Blacks Aged 15-19							
Male	na	na	na	48.8	39.3	46.4	51.5
Female	na	na	na	11.0	10.1	10.3	12.1
Total Aged 20-24	na	16.0	18.3	20.6	15.3	15.1	17.9
Whites Aged 20-24							
Male	na	11.1	14.5	19.9	14.3	14.6	16.0
Female	na	3.5	4.8	5.4	5.2	4.3	5.1
Blacks Aged 20-24							
Male	na	na	na	124.9	84.5	86.2	107.7
Female	na	na	na	26.0	19.3	17.9	20.1

Note: In addition to homicide, the table includes deaths by legal intervention, that is, as a result of police action or execution. Resident population estimates are for April 1 in 1980 and July 1 in all other years.

Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Vital Statistics of the United States, Volume II, Mortality, Part A, for the years indicated, Tables 1-M (1960), 1-8 and 1-9; and unpublished work tables from the National Center for Health Statistics, Mortality Statistics Branch, Division of Vital Statistics, 1989.

82. **Suicides Among Teenagers**. Over 2,100 teens aged 12 to 19 took their own lives in 1986. The suicide rate has gone up during the 1980s not only for older teens but also for those in the 12-14 age group. Males are three-to-four times more likely to take their own lives than females. (This fact may be due, in part, to boys' greater "success" in carrying out a given attempt, using more lethal means.) White males are more than twice as likely to commit suicide than are black males. The suicide rate for both white and black males aged 15-19 has more than doubled since 1960.

Number of Teen Suicide Deaths, 1960-1986

Population Groups	1960	1970	1975	1980	1985	1986
All teenagers						
Ages 12-14	na	na	na	130	258	226
Ages 15-19	475	1,123	1,594	1,797	1,849	1,896

Teen Suicide Death Rates, 1960-1986

(per 100,000 persons in age group)

Population Groups	1960	1970	1975	1980	1985	1986
All teenagers						
Ages 12-14	na	na	na	1.2	2.4	2.3
Ages 15-19	3.6	5.9	7.5	8.5	10.0	10.2
White males						
Ages 12-14	na	na	na	2.1	3.8	3.5
Ages 15-19	5.9	9.4	12.9	15.0	17.3	18.2
White females						
Ages 12-14	na	na	na	.5	1.4	1.1
Ages 15-19	1.6	2.9	3.1	3.3	4.1	4.1
Black males						
Ages 12-14	na	na	na	.9	1.9	2.3
Ages 15-19	2.9	4.7	6.1	5.6	8.2	7.1
Black females						
Ages 12-14	na	na	na	.2	.6	.6
Ages 15-19	1.1	2.9	1.5	1.6	1.5	2.1

Source: National Center for Health Statistics, unpublished work tables prepared by the Mortality Statistics Branch, Division of Vital Statistics, 1989.

83. **Officially Reported Child Maltreatment**. In 1987, almost 2.2 million official reports of child abuse or neglect were made to child protective service agencies. This number, as well as the rate per 1,000 children, has tripled since 1976. Cases of neglect continue to comprise the majority of child maltreatment reports. A disproportionate number of neglected or abused children are young (preschool-age) and come from black or Hispanic families. Although 2-out-of-3 reports of child maltreatment involve white children, 29 percent involve black or Hispanic children.

Number and Rate of Child
Maltreatment Reports, 1976-1987

	1976	1980	1984	1986	1987
Number of child maltreatment reports (thousands)	669	1,154	1,727	2,086	2,178
Rate per 1,000 children	10.1	18.1	27.3	32.8	34.0
Proportion substantiated	na	na	42%	na	40%

Characteristics of Maltreated Children, 1986
(Percent Distribution)

Type of Maltreatment*	1986
Physical injury:	
Major	3%
Minor	14%
Unspecified	11%
Neglect	55%
Sexual maltreatment	16%
Emotional maltreatment	8%
Other maltreatment	8%
Age	
0 to 5	43%
6 to 11	33%
12 to 17	24%
Sex	
Male	48%
Female	53%
Race/Hispanic Origin	
White**	67%
Black**	18%
Hispanic	11%
Other	4%

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* Percents for type of maltreatment add to more than 100 because a child may be reported as maltreated in more than one way.

** Non-Hispanic.

Note: Except for five states, reported totals include duplicate reports; i.e., a particular child may be reported more than once in a given year. Increases over time in reports of child maltreatment could be due to better reporting practices (especially improvements instigated by legislation mandating such reports in some states), to actual increases in levels of maltreatment, or both.

Source: American Association for Protecting Children, Highlights of Official Child Neglect and Abuse Reporting, 1984 (Denver, Colorado: The American Humane Association, 1986); American Association for Protecting Children, Highlights of Official Aggregate Child Neglect and Abuse Reporting, 1987 (Denver, Colorado: The American Humane Association, 1989); Select Committee on Children, Youth, and Families, Abused Children in America: Victims of Official Neglect, 1987.

84. **Communicable Diseases**. The incidence of communicable diseases such as measles, rubella, pertussis (whooping cough), and mumps has dropped dramatically since the introduction of vaccinations. In 1988, no more than 2 in 100,000 Americans (young or old) contracted each of these illnesses. However, the goal of completely eradicating these diseases has yet to be attained. Chicken pox continues to afflict roughly 137 in 100,000.

Number of Reported Cases of Selected Diseases
Per 100,000 Persons in U.S. Population, 1960-1988

Disease	1960	1970	1975	1980	1985	1987	1988*
Measles	246	23	11	6	1	2	1
Rubella	na	28	8	2	<1	<1	<1
Pertussis	8	2	1	1	2	1	1
Mumps	na	56	28	4	1	5	2
Chickenpox	na	na	78	97	123	122	137

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* Provisional data.

Note: Data are based on cases of notifiable diseases reported to state and territorial health agencies and thence to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) in Atlanta. Completeness of reporting varies greatly, inasmuch as not all cases receive medical care and not all treated conditions are reported. State laws and regulations mandate disease reporting, but reporting to the CDC by states and territories is voluntary.

Source: Centers for Disease Control, Division of Immunization, 1989.

85. **Immunization Among Preschool Children**. Except for mumps, the proportion of children aged 1-4 who have been immunized against each of the major childhood diseases declined slightly between 1980 and 1985. The proportion immunized against measles dropped from 64 percent in 1980 to 61 percent in 1985. In 1970, 78 percent of young children were immunized against polio; by 1985, this figure dropped to only 55 percent.

When survey data are supplemented with actual medical records, a much higher percentage is found to be immunized against each of the diseases within a given year. Nevertheless, except for D.P.T., one-quarter of preschoolers are not immunized against common childhood diseases.

Percentage of Preschool Children (Ages 1-4) Immunized Against Selected Diseases, 1970-1985

	Interview Only				Interview & Records*
Disease	1970	1975	1980	1985	1985
Measles	57%	66%	64%	61%	77%
Rubella	37%	62%	64%	59%	74%
D.P.T.**	76%	75%	66%	65%	87%
Polio**	78%	65%	59%	55%	76%
Mumps	na	44%	57%	59%	76%

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* The Centers for Disease Control have recently begun to include actual medical records along with self-reported survey data. Statistics based on these combined sources are considered more reliable than those from the self-reports alone; however, they should not be compared with figures from previous years.

** Diphtheria-Pertussis-Tetanus, 3 doses or more; Polio, 3 doses or more.

Note: Most schools now require proof of immunization as a condition of admission. As a result, the proportion of school-aged children who have been immunized against these diseases is approaching 100 percent.

Source: Centers for Disease Control, Division of Immunization, 1989.

86. **Pediatric AIDS by Age, Race and Exposure Type**. As of March 1989, pediatric AIDS cases accounted for 1.6 percent of all reported AIDS cases. 1,489 children under 13 years old have been reported to have AIDS. Moreover, the Secretary's Work Group on Pediatric HIV Infection and Disease of the Department of Health and Human Services has estimated that for every child who meets the CDC definition of aids, another two to ten are infected with HIV, and that by 1991 there will be at least 10,000 to 20,000 HIV-infected children in the United States.

Of these, 83 percent are under age 5. Three-fourths of the pediatric cases are among minority children. By contrast, 42 percent of adult cases are minorities. Transmission from mothers with or at-risk of AIDS/HIV infection account for the majority of pediatric AIDS cases among all ethnic groups. However, there are nearly seven times more cases of this type among black than among white children. Transfusions are the second leading source of HIV exposure. These cases are more prevalent among whites than minorities.

Total U.S. AIDS Cases Reported through March 1989, by Age Group, Sex, and Race/Hispanic Origin

Age Group	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian	American Indian
Under 5 Years Old						
Males	640	118	357	160	3	1
Female	592	109	346	132	1	2
5-12 Years Old						
Males	169	95	45	26	3	0
Females	88	22	43	21	2	0
Pediatric Total	1,489	344	791	339	9	3
13-19 Years Old						
Males	294	150	82	54	5	2
Females	65	14	39	11	1	0
20-24 Years Old						
Males	3,468	1,858	997	576	22	8
Females	538	148	251	133	2	0
Adult/Adolescent Total	89,501	51,643	23,537	13,472	531	104
Total AIDS cases	**90,990**	**51,987**	**24,328**	**13,811**	**540**	**107**

Total Pediatric AIDS Cases, by Type of Exposure and Race/Hispanic Origin, through March 1989

Type of Exposure	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian	American Indian
Mother with/at-risk for AIDS/HIV infection	1,168	174	710	275	3	3
--IV drug use	609	76	363	167	1	2
--Sex with IV drug user	229	37	116	75	0	0
--Born in Pattern II Country	132	2	128	1	0	0
--Unspecified	127	29	73	22	2	1
--Other	71	30	30	10	0	0
Transfusion	181	99	41	38	3	0
Hemophilia/ Coagulation Dis.	87	61	10	13	3	0
Undetermined	53	10	30	13	0	0
Total	1,489	344	791	339	9	3

Note: Whites and blacks are those who are non-Hispanic. Pattern II countries are areas of Africa and some Caribbean countries where most of the reported cases occur in heterosexuals. Other types of exposure include mothers who had AIDS due to: sex with a bisexual male, person with hemophilia, person born in pattern II country, or transfusion recipient with HIV infection; or receipt of transfusion of infected blood or tissue. Unspecified cases are those where the original transmission was not specified.

Source: Centers for Disease Control, HIV/AIDS Surveillance Report, April 1989: 1-16, Tables 4 and 6.

87. **Trend in Pediatric AIDS Cases**. The number of pediatric AIDS cases reported has increased dramatically since 1981, when data were first collected. The number of cases reported in 1988-89 is five times more than the number reported between 1981 and 1984. The number of cases in all exposure types has increased, with the exception of transfusions, which appear to have stabilized in the last two years. The exposure type with the largest increase has been the spread to children born of mothers with or at-risk of AIDS/HIV infection.

Number of Pediatric AIDS Cases Reported, by Type of Exposure, 1981-84 to 1988-89

Type of Exposure	1981-84	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88	1988-89	Cumulative Total
Mother with/ at-risk for AIDS/HIV infection	75	126	181	332	440	1,168
Transfusion	14	23	25	59	57	181
Hemophilia/ Coagulation Disorder	6	8	13	28	33	87
Undetermined	na	2	6	14	27	53
Other/None of the above	10	na	na	na	na	na
Pediatric Subtotal	105	159	225	433	557	1,489
Adult/Adolescent Subtotal	8,840	9,410	14,799	24,008	32,360	89,501
Total	8,945	9,569	15,024	24,441	32,917	90,990

Note: Except for 1981-84, data are based on the 12-month period from April to March of each year. Pediatric AIDS cases are those under 13 years of age at the time of diagnosis of AIDS.

Source: Center for Infectious Diseases, Centers for Disease Control, HIV/AIDS Weekly Surveillance Reports, United States AIDS Program, selected reports from March 1985, March 1987, March 1988, March 1989.

88. **Sexually Transmitted Diseases**. The Centers for Disease Control estimate that 2.5 million teens are infected by sexually transmitted diseases each year. Gonorrhea is at epidemic levels among U.S. teenagers, although there has been a slight decline in the rate of infection during the 1980s. More than 1 percent of teens aged 15-19 have reported cases of gonorrhea annually. The rate of reported syphilis cases has risen slightly during the 1980s, though the annual incidence of syphilis among teens, about 24 per 100,000, is much lower than that for gonorrhea.

Annual Number of Cases and Rate Per 100,000 of Gonorrhea and Syphilis Among Teenagers and Children, 1980-1987

	Reported Cases of Gonorrhea				Reported Cases of Syphilis (Primary and Secondary)			
	1980	1985	1986	1987	1980	1985	1986	1987
Ages 15-19								
Number	247,239	218,821	215,707	188,233	3,574	3,132	3,264	4,331
Rate per 100,000	1187.3	1189.9	1168.8	1028.1	17.2	17.0	17.7	23.7
Males	953.4	930.5	893.3	793.2	19.2	16.3	16.1	19.7
Females	1424.6	1455.1	1451.2	1269.2	15.1	17.7	19.3	27.7
Ages 10-14								
Number	8,873	8,164	8,088	7,041	168	159	168	229
Rate per 100,000	48.7	47.7	48.8	42.7	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.4
Males	23.6	23.8	23.7	21.0	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.6
Females	74.8	72.9	75.2	65.6	1.3	1.4	1.5	2.2
Ages 0-9								
Number	2,211	2,258	2,234	1,946	16	17	18	24
Rate per 100,000	6.7	6.5	6.3	5.4	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1
Males	4.0	3.6	3.4	3.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Females	9.5	9.5	9.3	8.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1

Note: Detailed data on other sexually transmitted diseases, such as chlamydia and herpes, cannot be shown because statistics on these diseases are not reported by all states and/or are not reported by age.

Source: Centers for Disease Control, "Sexually Transmitted Disease Statistics, 1987," Issue No. 136, October 1988, Tables 2 and 3.

89. **Chronic Health Conditions in Childhood**. Among persistent health conditions that are common in childhood, respiratory conditions such as hay fever, chronic bronchitis, chronic sinusitis, and asthma are the most prevalent. Each of these conditions affects 3 to 4 million youngsters. Skin conditions; orthopedic, hearing, or speech impairments; and heart murmurs also affect large numbers of children and adolescents. Asthma stands out among the most prevalent conditions because it is the leading cause of activity restriction in children, can be life threatening, and requires frequent medical care. Serious childhood diseases such as epilepsy and diabetes affect smaller but still substantial numbers of young people.

Prevalence of Selected Chronic Health Conditions That Are Common in Childhood, 1987

Type of Condition	Estimated Number of Cases in Population Under 18, 1987	Number per 1,000 Children Under 18
Respiratory Conditions		
Hay fever, allergic rhinitis	4.0 million	64.0
Chronic bronchitis	3.9 million	62.1
Chronic sinusitis	3.6 million	57.6
Asthma	3.3 million	52.5
Chronic diseases of tonsils or adenoids	1.9 million	30.2
Skin conditions		
Dermatitis	2.0 million	32.1
Serious acne	1.6 million	25.6
Impairments		
Deformity or orthopedic impairment	2.3 million	35.8
Speech impairment	1.2 million	18.5
Hearing impairment	1.0 million	16.0
Visual impairment	638 thousand	10.1
Other conditions		
Heart murmurs	1.1 million	17.4
Migraine headache	532 thousand	8.4
Anemias	475 thousand	7.5
Epilepsy	258 thousand	4.1
Diabetes	129 thousand	2.0

Note: Chronic conditions as defined in the National Health Interview Survey are conditions that either a) were first noticed three months or more before the reference date of the interview; or b) belong to a group of conditions (including heart disease, diabetes, and others) that are considered chronic regardless of when they began. The prevalence estimates are based on reports by parents or other adult respondents in response to checklists administered in household interviews. Estimates for conditions that affect fewer than 200,000 persons in the population may be unreliable due to small sample sizes.

Source: National Center for Health Statistics, "Current Estimates from the National Health Interview Survey: United States, 1987," Vital and Health Statistics, Series 10, Number 166, September 1988, Tables 57 and 62.

90. **Children With Limitation of Activity Due to Chronic Health Conditions**. Approximately 3.2 million children under 18, 5 percent of the child population, are reported by their parents to have some form of activity limitation caused by a chronic health condition. About 2.2 million, or 3.5 percent of the child population, are reported to have a limitation in a major activity, that is, a condition that limits school attendance (for school-aged children) or ordinary play (for preschool children). Health-related activity limitations are more frequent among males than females, among blacks than whites, and among young people from low-income families than among those from more affluent families.

Note: In the National Health Interview Survey, "limitation of activity" refers to a long-term reduction in a person's capacity to perform the average kinds of activities associated with his or her age group. Attending school is considered the major activity for children 5-17 years of age, while ordinary play is the major activity for children under 5 years of age.

Prevalence of Activity Limitations Due to Chronic Health Conditions Among Children Under 18, 1983-1987

	Estimated Number in Population (in thousands)			Percent of All Children Under 18		
	1983	1985	1987	1983	1985	1987
Total with activity limitation	3,185	3,221	3,164	5.1%	5.1%	5.0%
Degree of limitation						
Limited in major activity	2,196	2,312	2,222	3.5%	3.7%	3.5%
Unable to carry on major activity	215	292	258	0.3%	0.5%	0.4%
Limited in amount or kind of major activity	1,981	2,020	1,964	3.2%	3.2%	3.1%
Limited, but not in major activity	988	910	942	1.6%	1.5%	1.5%

Children With Activity Limitations by Sex, Race, and Family Income, 1987

	Total With Activity Limitation	Limitation in Major Activity	Total With Activity Limitation	Limitation in Major Activity
	(in thousands)		(Percent)	
All children under 18	3,164	2,222	5.0%	3.5%
Sex				
Male	1,861	1,364	5.7%	4.2%
Female	1,303	858	4.2%	2.8%
Race				
White	2,563	1,764	5.0%	3.4%
Black	540	403	5.6%	4.1%
Family Income				
Under $10,000	666	505	7.8%	5.9%
$10,000-$19,999	668	507	5.7%	4.3%
$20,000-$34,000	871	594	5.0%	3.4%
$35,000 or more	684	421	3.7%	2.3%

Note: Beginning with the 1982 survey, a question on attending special classes was added to the limitation sequence for school-aged children. Thus, comparisons with earlier data on the prevalence of limitations among children are not appropriate.

Source: National Center for Health Statistics, "Current Estimates From the National Health Interview Survey: United States," 1983, 1985, 1987, Vital and Health Statistics, Series 10, Nos. 154, 160, and 166, September 1988, Tables 67 and 68 in each report.

91. **Parent Ratings of Children's Health Status**. When U.S. parents are asked to rate the health of their children on a scale from "excellent" to "poor," eight out of ten children are described as being in very good or excellent health. Between 2 and 3 percent are rated in fair or poor health. Black children and children from families below the poverty line are less likely to be described as being in excellent health -- and two-to-three times more likely to be rated in fair or poor health -- than non-minority children and those from more affluent families. The overall distribution of child health ratings has not changed significantly in recent years.

Health Ratings for Preschool and School-Aged Children, By Race and Poverty Status in 1987, and by Year, 1983-87

Percent Distributions

	Preschool Children (under 5 years)			School-Aged Children (5-17 years)		
	Race, 1987			Race, 1987		
Parent Rating of Child's Health	Total	Whites	Blacks	Total	Whites	Blacks
Excellent	54%	56%	46%	53%	56%	40%
Very Good	27%	28%	25%	27%	27%	26%
Good	16%	14%	25%	17%	15%	31%
Fair or Poor	3%	2%	5%	2%	2%	4%
	Poverty Status, 1987			Poverty Status, 1987		
Parent Rating of Child's Health	Poor	Non-Poor		Poor	Non-Poor	
Excellent	41%	58%		37%	58%	
Very Good	25%	28%		27%	27%	
Good	29%	12%		31%	14%	
Fair or Poor	5%	2%		6%	2%	
	Year			Year		
Parent Rating of Child's Health	1983	1985	1987	1983	1985	1987
Excellent	54%	55%	54%	52%	52%	53%
Very Good	25%	26%	27%	25%	27%	27%
Good	18%	17%	16%	20%	19%	17%
Fair or Poor	3%	2%	3%	4%	3%	2%

Note: The scale used in the National Health Interview Survey for overall rating of a subject's health was changed between 1981 and 1982 from a four-category to a five-category scale. In addition, parents were no longer asked to compare the child with others of the same age and sex. Thus, ratings data from years prior to 1983 are not strictly comparable to recent data.

Source: National Center for Health Statistics, "Current Estimates From the National Health Interview Survey: United States, 1983;" 1985; and 1987; Vital and Health Statistics, Series 10, Nos. 154, 160, and 166, September 1988, Table 70 in each.

92. **Physician Visits**. Children have averaged about four physician visits per child per year since the mid-1970s. Eighty percent of all children have at least one physician contact over the course of the year. The number of physician visits per child per year rose between 1964 and 1975. The proportion of children with at least one visit per year also rose during that period. In recent years, there has been little change in the number of visits per year or in the interval since the last visit.

Number of Physician Visits Per Child Per Year and Interval Since Last Visit, 1964-1987

	1964	1975	1979	1980	1981	1985	1987
Number of visits per child	3.7	4.2	4.1	4.4	4.1	4.2	4.2
Interval since last visit				(Percent Distribution)			
Less than one year	67.0%	73.6%	75.6%	76.7%	76.2%	77.9%	80.2%
One to less than two years	14.8%	14.0%	13.7%	12.8%	13.2%	11.9%	11.5%
Two years or more	14.7%	11.2%	9.4%	9.2%	9.7%	8.9%	8.3%

Note: Figures for 1964-1981 are for children under 17 years. Figures for 1985 and 1987 are for children under 18 years. Physician visits as measured in the National Health Interview Survey include contacts with physicians by telephone.

Source: National Center for Health Statistics, Health: United States, 1982, Tables 35 and 36; "Current Estimates from the National Health Interview Survey: United States," Vital and Health Statistics, Series 10, Nos. 141, 160, and 166, September 1988, Tables 71 and 72.

93. **Physician Visits by Age, Race, and Income**. As of 1987, one child in 12 had not seen a doctor in two years or more. School-aged children have fewer physician visits per year and are less likely to have seen a doctor within the last two years than preschool children. Children from low-income families are less likely to receive medical care than children from more affluent families.

Number of Physician Vists Per Year by Children and Percent of Children with No Visits, by Age, Race, and Income, 1985 and 1987

	Number of Physician Visits per Child per Year		Percent with No Physician Visit in Two Years or More	
	1985	1987	1985	1987
All children under 18	4.2	4.2	8.9%	8.3%
Age				
Under 5 years	6.7	6.7	1.9%	1.4%
5-17 years	3.3	3.3	11.9%	11.1%
Race				
White	4.5	4.6	8.6%	7.9%
Black	3.0	3.0	11.0%	10.1%
Family Income				
Under $10,000	3.8	4.2	12.4%	9.5%
$10,000-$19,999	3.9	3.8	11.3%	10.5%
$20,000-$34,999	4.4	4.3	8.6%	8.5%
$35,000 or more	5.0	5.0	5.5%	5.9%

Note: Physician visits as measured in the National Health Interview Survey include contacts with physicians by telephone.

Source: National Center for Health Statistics, "Current Estimates from the National Health Interview Survey, United States, 1987," Vital and Health Statistics, Series 10, Nos. 160, 166, September 1988, Tables 71 and 72 in each report.

94. **Health Insurance Coverage**. In 1985, 80 percent of children had some kind of health insurance coverage. By contrast, the proportion covered in 1982 was 83 percent.[1] In 1985, one in three poor children had no public or private health insurance coverage. Medicaid, the primary federal health insurance program for low income individuals, provides protection to half of all children in families below the poverty level. Among children under 6, poor children in single-parent families had a better rate of coverage than near-poor children in the same type of family, due to differences in Medicaid eligibility. White children under 6 were more likely than black, Hispanic, or other children of the same age to be covered by health insurance. Among poor young children, however, black children were most likely to be covered.

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[1] Employee Benefit Research Institute tabulations of the March 1983 Current Population Survey. These data refer to children of the civilian nonagricultural population, whereas the 1985 data are for all children. This difference in definition is negligible. The Office of Technology Assessment has also carried out analyses showing that the proportion of uninsured adolescents aged 10 to 18 increased between 1979 and 1986.

Until 1988, when changes in question wording were made, data on health insurance coverage from the Current Population Survey (CPS) did not include children who were covered by the health insurance of absent parents. Including these children might produce slight increases in the proportion of children covered, but would not alter the finding that the proportion of uninsured children increased during the 1980s. Final tabulations from the 1988 CPS are not yet available.

Health Insurance and Medicaid Coverage of Children, by Age Group, Poverty Status, Family Type, Employment of Parents, and Race/Hispanic Origin, 1985

	Some form of health insurance			Medicaid		
	All	Poor		All	Poor	
Children 0-17 yrs.	80%	68%		13%	51%	
	Poor	Near-Poor	Non-Poor	Poor	Near-Poor	Non-Poor
Age Group						
0-5 yrs.	70%	68%	87%	53%	14%	3%
6-17 yrs.	66%	67%	86%	49%	12%	2%
Children 0-5 yrs.						
Child lives with:						
Both parents	63%	70%	91%	32%	9%	1%
Mother only	80%	68%	59%	73%	37%	18%
Divorced	78%	59%	61%	70%	22%	9%
Never married	85%	74%	57%	82%	52%	32%
Separated	78%	65%	64%	68%	26%	13%
Widowed	40%	75%	44%	22%	20%	6%
Father only	48%	36%	53%	29%	15%	<1%
Presence and labor-force status of parents						
Two parents, both in labor force	64%	69%	92%	23%	8%	1%
Two parents, one or both not in labor force	61%	67%	90%	37%	10%	2%
Single parent, in labor force	69%	65%	62%	55%	25%	12%
Single parent, not in labor force	87%	77%	52%	85%	64%	40%
Race/Hispanic Origin						
White	69%	70%	89%	46%	14%	2%
Black	77%	62%	76%	67%	20%	8%
Hispanic	60%	65%	75%	50%	10%	5%
Other	72%	64%	83%	55%	7%	2%

Note: White, black, and other are those who are not Hispanic. Some form of insurance includes Medicaid. Medicaid "coverage" includes all persons enrolled in the Medicaid program at any time during 1984; the person did not necessarily receive medical care paid for by Medicaid. The near-poor are those whose family incomes put them between 1 and 1.5 times the government-established poverty line.

Source: Child Trends, Inc., special tabulations prepared from the March 1986 Current Population Survey.

BEHAVIOR AND ATTITUDES

95. **Post High School Plans of High School Seniors**. As of 1988, nearly seven out of ten high school seniors planned to earn a college degree, and over four in ten planned to attend graduate or professional school. The plans of males and females were quite similar except that far fewer females planned to serve in the Armed Forces. Plans to attend a vocational or technical school, serve in the Armed Forces, or to graduate from a 2-year college program have not shown much change since 1976, whereas plans for graduation from college and attendance at a graduate or professional school have shown marked increases, particularly among female seniors.

Percent of High School Seniors Who Say They "Probably" or "Definitely Will" Pursue Selected Educational and Occupational Goals, 1976-1988

Activity	1976	1980	1985	1986	1987	1988
Attend a technical or vocational school						
Total	27%	27%	26%	26%	25%	24%
Males	29	29	29	30	27	27
Females	25	25	23	23	23	22
Graduate from a 2-year college program						
Total	32%	32%	34%	34%	37%	36%
Males	30	29	31	32	34	34
Females	33	35	36	38	39	38
Graduate from college (4-year program)						
Total	51%	57%	62%	64%	67%	69%
Males	53	59	61	63	67	68
Females	48	55	63	65	68	70
Attend graduate or professional school						
Total	29%	34%	38%	39%	41%	45%
Males	30	36	36	38	40	43
Females	27	32	40	40	43	46
Serve in the Armed Forces						
Total	15%	13%	16%	16%	17%	15%
Males	22	21	25	26	26	24
Females	7	5	7	7	8	6

Source: Trend analysis by Child Trends, Inc., of data from "Monitoring the Future," an annual survey of high school seniors conducted by the Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan, and sponsored by the National Institute of Drug Abuse and other agencies. Johnston, L.D., Bachman, J.G., and O'Malley, P., Monitoring the Future, annual volumes, 1976-1986, Ann Arbor, Michigan: Institute for Social Research, The University of Michigan, and unpublished data provided in May 1989.

96. **Goals of High School Seniors**. When asked to rate the importance of a series of goals, 96 percent of high school seniors rated being able to find steady work as extremely or quite important; and 90 percent said being successful in their chosen line of work was this important. In general, goals related to friends and family were equally important. In contrast, goals that focused beyond the individual and his or her immediate circle were given much less importance: making a contribution to society was important to a bare majority -- 55 percent -- while just over 3 in 10 rated being a community leader or working to correct social and economic inequalities as important. With the exception of having lots of money and being a community leader, the goals of seniors have not changed since 1976.

Percent of High School Seniors Who Rate Selected Life Goals as Being "Extremely" or "Quite Important," 1976-1988

Goal	1976	1980	1985	1986	1987	1988
Being able to find steady work						
Total	92%	93%	95%	94%	93%	96%
Males	93	94	94	94	92	95
Females	91	93	96	95	94	96
Having strong friendships						
Total	89%	90%	91%	91%	91%	92%
Males	90	90	91	91	90	92
Females	88	91	92	93	92	93
Being successful in my line of work						
Total	88%	88%	91%	91%	90%	90%
Males	86	88	91	91	89	89
Females	89	89	91	92	90	92
Having a good marriage and family life						
Total	88%	90%	90%	89%	89%	90%
Males	84	87	86	86	86	86
Females	91	93	93	93	92	93
Being able to give my children better opportunities than I've had						
Total	83%	85%	87%	88%	86%	89%
Males	83	86	85	88	88	89
Females	83	83	87	88	85	89

(continued)

Percent of High School Seniors Who Rate Selected Life Goals as Being "Extremely" or "Quite Important," 1976-1988

(continued)

Goal	1976	1980	1985	1986	1987	1988
Finding purpose and meaning in my life						
Total	89%	89%	86%	85%	84%	85%
Males	84	86	81	80	80	80
Females	93	93	92	90	88	89
Having lots of money						
Total	46%	51%	61%	63%	64%	68%
Males	55	59	67	68	70	76
Females	35	41	56	57	57	60
Making a contribution to society						
Total	53%	53%	55%	52%	51%	55%
Males	51	54	54	51	51	53
Females	55	52	56	53	51	57
Working to correct social and economic inequalities						
Total	33%	34%	32%	32%	30%	35%
Males	29	32	27	30	28	33
Females	37	35	36	34	32	36
Being a leader in my community						
Total	21%	24%	26%	28%	26%	32%
Males	24	27	27	32	28	36
Females	19	20	24	24	24	28

Source: Trend analysis by Child Trends, Inc., of data from Monitoring the Future an annual survey of high school seniors conducted by the Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan and sponsored by the National Institute of Drug Abuse and other agencies. Johnston L.D., Bachman, J.G., and O'Malley, P. Monitoring the Future, annual volumes, 1976-1986. Ann Arbor, Michigan: Institute for Social Research, The University of Michigan, and unpublished data provided in May 1989.

97. **Goals of College Freshmen**. When college freshmen were asked to rate the personal importance of various life objectives, just over 70 percent rated it "essential" or "very important" that they become "an authority in my field" and be "very well off financially." Nearly as many rated "raising a family" as highly important. The importance attributed to being financially well off has risen sharply since 1970, as has the importance of "having administrative responsibility." In contrast, "helping others in difficulty" and "having a meaningful philosophy of life" have both declined in importance. Differences between males and females in the importance attributed to objectives have narrowed considerably since 1970, both for career-oriented objectives and for "raising a family" and "helping others."

Percent of College Freshmen Who Rate Selected Life Objectives As "Essential" or "Very Important," 1970-1988

Objective	1970	1975	1980	1985	1988
Becoming an authority in my field					
Total	67%	70%	73%	71%	72%
Males	72	73	75	73	74
Females	61	66	72	69	71
Being very well off financially					
Total	39%	50%	63%	71%	73%
Males	48	58	69	75	78
Females	28	40	58	67	70
Raising a family					
Total	68%	57%	63%	70%	67%
Males	64	56	63	69	67
Females	72	57	64	70	67
Helping others in difficulty					
Total	65%	66%	65%	63%	56%
Males	57	58	56	65	46
Females	74	74	73	71	65
Obtaining recognition from colleagues/peers					
Total	40%	43%	54%	55%	55%
Males	45	47	56	57	57
Females	33	39	53	54	54

(continued)

Percent of College Freshmen Who Rate Selected Life Objectives As "Essential" or "Very Important," 1970-1988

(continued)

Objective	1970	1975	1980	1985	1988
Being successful in a business of my own					
Total	44%	44%	49%	52%	52%
Males	54	53	55	56	57
Females	32	33	44	48	48
Developing a meaningful philosophy of life					
Total	76%	64%	50%	43%	51%*
Males	73	61	49	44	49
Females	79	68	52	43	51
Having administrative responsibility					
Total	22%	31%	39%	43%	40%
Males	27	34	41	45	43
Females	15	27	37	41	37

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* Due to a change in item ordering, this item cannot be reliably compared to data from prior years.

Source: Trend analysis by Child Trends, Inc., of data from the annual survey of entering college freshmen conducted jointly by the University of California at Los Angeles and the American Council on Education. See: Astin, A.W., Green, K.C., Korn, W.S., Schalit, M., and Berz, E.R. The American Freshman - National Norms for Fall 1988, December 1988, Los Angeles: Higher Education Research Institute, Graduate School of Education, UCLA; and earlier volumes in the series.

98. **Daily Activity Patterns of High School Seniors**. The proportion of high school seniors who report daily reading of books, magazines, or newspapers has declined steadily during the 1980s. Less than half of all seniors reported such reading in 1988. By contrast, nearly three-quarters reported watching television "almost every day." Just about half reported getting together with friends, about 45 percent reported active sports or exercise, and about a third said they did housework or yardwork on most days. Smaller percentages reported daily involvement with creative activities such as music-making (27 percent), arts and crafts (13 percent), or creative writing (6 percent). Apart from reading and housework, daily participation levels for these activities have remained fairly stable.

Daily activity patterns still show substantial sex differences, with more females reporting daily work around the house and music-making. On the other hand, more males reported daily sports activities, riding around in a car for fun, getting together with friends, and television watching.

Percent of High School Seniors Who Report They Do Selected Activities "Almost Every Day," 1976-1988

Activity	1976	1980	1985	1986	1987	1988
Watch TV						
Total	71%	72%	72%	74%	71%	73%
Males	71	72	74	77	74	74
Females	71	73	69	71	69	71
Get together with friends, informally						
Total	52%	51%	47%	49%	47%	50%
Males	55	55	52	52	49	54
Females	48	47	43	46	45	48
Read books, magazines, or newspapers						
Total	59%	59%	51%	50%	48%	46%
Males	58	59	50	50	49	47
Females	62	59	52	51	48	46
Actively participate in sports, exercise						
Total	44%	47%	43%	44%	44%	44%
Males	52	57	53	54	55	57
Females	36	38	34	36	34	31
Spend at least an hour of leisure time alone						
Total	40%	42%	42%	42%	43%	42%
Males	39	40	40	40	44	41
Females	41	44	45	43	44	42

(continued)

Percent of High School Seniors Who Report They Do Selected Activities "Almost Every Day," 1976-1988

(continued)

Activity	1976	1980	1985	1986	1987	1988
Ride around in a car (or motorcycle) just for fun						
Total	na	33%	35%	36%	36%	37%
Males	na	38	39	41	40	41
Females	na	28	31	31	32	33
Work around the house, yard, garden, car, etc.						
Total	41%	40%	35%	34%	33%	32%
Males	33	30	28	27	27	25
Females	49	49	42	41	38	37
Play a musical instrument or sing						
Total	28%	29%	29%	27%	28%	27%
Males	22	25	24	22	24	23
Females	35	34	35	32	32	31
Do art or craft work						
Total	12%	13%	11%	14%	14%	13%
Males	10	12	12	14	15	12
Females	13	14	10	13	13	12
Do creative writing						
Total	6%	5%	6%	7%	6%	6%
Males	4	4	4	6	6	6
Females	6	6	7	7	7	6

Source: Trend analysis by Child Trends, Inc., of data from Monitoring the Future, an annual survey of high school seniors conducted by the Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan, and sponsored by the National Institute of Drug Abuse and other agencies. Johnston, L.D., Bachman, J.G., and O'Malley, P. Monitoring the Future, annual volumes, 1976-1986, Ann Arbor, Michigan: Institute for Social Research, The University of Michigan, and unpublished data provided in May 1989.

99. **Alcohol and Drug Use Among High School Seniors**. After reaching a peak near the beginning of this decade, the use of most controlled substances has declined steadily among high school seniors. Cocaine continued to become more popular between 1980 and 1985, but new data show a dramatic decline in cocaine use during the last two years. (Use of a particularly powerful form of cocaine known as "crack" went up by one-tenth of 1 percent between 1987 and 1988, however.) Marijuana use among high school seniors showed the greatest decrease in prevalence during the 1980s, dropping by almost half. On the other hand, close to two-thirds of high school seniors still report using alcohol during the preceding 30 days.

Percent of High School Seniors Reporting Use of
Alcohol or Drugs in Previous 30 Days, 1975-1988

Substance	1975	1980	1985	1987	1988
Alcohol	68.3%	72.0%	65.9%	66.4%	63.9%
Marijuana	27.3%	33.7%	25.7%	21.0%	18.0%
Stimulants*	8.7%	12.1%	6.8%	5.2%	4.6%
Cocaine	2.1%	5.2%	6.7%	4.3%	3.4%
LSD	2.5%	2.3%	1.6%	1.8%	1.8%
PCP/Other Psychedelic	na	2.3%	1.3%	.6%	.3%
Heroin	.6%	.2%	.3%	.2%	.2%

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* Stimulants prescribed by a doctor are not counted. Beginning with 1985, the data are based on a revised questionnaire item, which attempts to exclude the inappropriate reporting of non-prescription stimulants.

Source: L. Johnston, J. Bachman, and P. O'Malley, Monitoring the Future, University of Michigan: Institute for Social Research, annual volumes, 1975-1986, and unpublished data provided May 1989.

100. **Alcohol, Cigarette, Marijuana, and Cocaine Use Among Teenagers**. As of 1985, alcohol use was quite prevalent among males and females of ages 12-17; even among the 14-15 age group, over one-third reported having used alcohol during the last month. After a peak of popularity at the end of the last decade, use of marijuana has decreased, especially among older teens. Not surprisingly, older youth are much more likely to use controlled substances than are younger teens. By the time they are 16-17 years old, half of U.S. teenagers use alcohol, one-quarter are smokers, one-fifth are marijuana users, and one in 30 uses cocaine. Male teens are more likely than females to use alcohol and cocaine, but sex differences are not large.

Alcohol, Tobacco, Marijuana, and Cocaine Use Among Teenagers, 12-17, by Age and Sex, 1974-1985

	Percent Reporting Use of Substance In Past Month		
	1974	1979	1985
Alcohol*			
All teens 12-17 years	34%	37%	31%
Age:			
12-13 year olds	19%	20%	12%
14-15 year olds	32%	36%	35%
16-17 year olds	51%	55%	48%
Sex:			
Males	39%	39%	34%
Females	29%	36%	29%
Cigarettes			
All teens 12-17 years	25%	nc	16%
Age:			
12-13 year olds	13%	nc	6%
14-15 year olds	25%	nc	15%
16-17 year olds	38%	nc	26%
Sex:			
Males	27%	nc	16%
Females	24%	nc	15%
Marijuana			
All teens 12-17 years	12%	17%	12%
Age:			
12-13 year olds	2%	4%	4%
14-15 year olds	12%	17%	12%
16-17 year olds	20%	28%	22%
Sex:			
Males	12%	19%	13%
Females	11%	14%	11%
Cocaine			
All teens 12-17 years	1%	1%	2%
Age:			
12-13 year olds	na	na	<1%
14-15 year olds	na	na	1%
16-17 year olds	na	na	3%
Sex:			
Males	na	na	2%
Females	na	na	1%

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* In 1979 and 1985, private answer sheets were used for alcohol questions; in earlier years, respondents answered questions aloud.

nc = Data not comparable because definitions differ.

Note: Data are based on household interviews of a sample of the population 12 years of age and over in the coterminous U.S.

Source: National Center for Health Statistics, Health United States, 1987, Table 48; National Institute on Drug Abuse, National Household Survey on Drug Abuse: Main Findings, 1985, 1988.

101. **Labor Force Participation and Unemployment Among 16- and 17-Year Olds**. After rising between 1960 and 1985, the unemployment rate of 16- and 17-year olds has declined recently for youth who are enrolled as well as those not enrolled in school. In 1988, 42 percent of 16-17 year olds enrolled in school were in the labor force, and 16 percent were unemployed. Since 1960, the labor force participation rate for enrolled males has fluctuated between 34 percent and 44 percent, but has increased from 23 percent to 42 percent for females. Although the unemployment rate for black students has declined since 1985, black and Hispanic students still have higher unemployment rates and are less likely to be in the labor force than white students.

Note: Data are for October of each year. The labor force participation rate is the ratio of the number in the labor force to the civilian non-institutional population in each population group. The unemployment rate is the proportion of the labor force that is without a job. The population base is too small for reliable estimates of black and Hispanic 16-17 year olds who are not enrolled in school.

Labor Force Participation and Unemployment Among 16-17 Year Olds by School Enrollment Status, Race/Hispanic Origin and Sex, 1960-1988

Labor Force Participation Rates

	1960	1970	1975	1980	1985	1987	1988
Enrolled							
Total							
Males	34%	39%	42%	44%	38%	41%	42%
Females	23%	34%	39%	41%	39%	44%	42%
White							
Males	na	41%	46%	48%	42%	45%	45%
Females	na	36%	44%	48%	42%	47%	45%
Black							
Males	na	24%	17%	26%	23%	21%	31%
Females	na	20%	21%	18%	24%	27%	24%
Hispanic							
Males	na	na	30%	31%	na	26%	28%
Females	na	na	20%	28%	na	31%	31%
Not Enrolled							
Total							
Males	82%	76%	76%	71%	75%	64%	65%
Females	51%	41%	47%	51%	49%	51%	36%
White							
Males	na	80%	77%	75%	79%	66%	66%
Females	na	44%	48%	56%	51%	52%	38%

Unemployment Rates

	1960	1970	1975	1980	1985	1987	1988
Enrolled							
Total							
Males	11%	17%	17%	20%	21%	19%	18%
Females	10%	16%	19%	17%	19%	18%	14%
White							
Males	na	15%	17%	17%	19%	16%	16%
Females	na	15%	18%	15%	16%	16%	13%
Black							
Males	na	33%	25%	43%	41%	38%	34%
Females	na	28%	32%	39%	51%	42%	25%
Hispanic							
Males	na	na	na	na	--	14%	37%
Females	na	na	na	na	--	37%	17%
Not Enrolled							
Total							
Males	18%	29%	36%	27%	42%	36%	24%
Females	19%	29%	38%	29%	31%	28%	18%
White							
Males	na	28%	30%	26%	40%	31%	22%
Females	na	26%	31%	26%	27%	22%	15%

-- Population base too small for reliable estimates.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Handbook of Labor Statistics, Bulletin 2217, June 1985; and unpublished data from the Current Population Survey provided May 1989.

102. **Juvenile Arrests**. Between 1965 and 1975, the number of juveniles under 18 arrested each year doubled from 1 to 2 million; the arrest rate for 13-17 year olds increased by 41 percent; and the arrest rate for violent crimes more than doubled. In the last decade, the annual number of juvenile arrests has stabilized at about 1.8 million. Juvenile arrest rates have also stabilized, though at very high levels.

In 1987, there were 109 arrests of 13-17 year olds for every 1,000 youth in that age range. The arrest rate for FBI Property Index Crimes, such as arson, auto theft, and burglary, was about 34 per thousand in 1987; and the rate for FBI Violent Index Crimes, such as aggravated assault, robbery, and rape, was about 4.5 per thousand. Juvenile arrests (under 18 years of age) represented 17 percent of all arrests in 1987. This marks a decline since 1975, when more than one-quarter of those arrested were juveniles.

Juvenile Arrests, 1965-1987

	1965	1970	1975	1980	1985	1986	1987
Number of Juvenile Arrests (Under 18) (in thousands)	1,074	1,661	2,078	2,026	1,763	1,748	1,781
Juvenile Arrests as Percent of Total Arrests	21.4%	25.3%	25.9%	20.9%	17.1%	16.8%	16.5%

Arrest Rates for 13-17 Year Olds
(per 1,000 Population of 13-17 Year Olds), 1965-1987

	1965	1970	1975	1980	1985	1986	1987
Total Arrest Rate	73.5	97.4	103.9	101.0	101.1	105.7	108.7
Property Crime Index Arrest Rate	24.8	29.9	35.5	33.7	31.9	32.9	34.1
Violent Crime Index Arrest Rate	2.1	3.3	4.4	4.5	4.3	4.5	4.5
Crime Index Total Arrest Rate	26.9	33.2	40.0	38.2	36.2	37.3	38.7

Note: Crimes covered in the FBI Property Crime Index include arson, auto theft, burglary, and larceny. Crimes covered in the FBI Violent Crime Index include aggravated assault, murder, rape, robbery, and non-negligent manslaughter. The Crime Index Total covers both these types of crime. In calculating the arrest rates, the 13-17 year old population estimates were adjusted for coverage of reporting units.

Arrest trends are an imperfect indicator of underlying trends in juvenile crime rates. The likelihood that a crime will result in a recorded arrest depends on a number of factors, such as the propensity of victims to report crimes to the police, the police department's routine procedures for dealing with juvenile suspects, etc. Changes in these factors over time could distort the relationship between the number of arrests and the number of crimes committed. However, estimates of the volume of juvenile crime developed from National Crime Survey victimization report data are compatible with the arrest trends presented above.

Source: Cook, P. and J. Laub, "The (Surprising) Stability of Youth Crime Rates," Journal of Quantitative Criminology, Vol. 2, No. 3, pp. 265-277, 1986; Uniform Crime Reports for the United States, 1985, 1986, and 1987, July 1988, Table 33 in each report; Statistical Abstract of the United States, 1967, Table 219; 1980, Table 320; and 1989, Table 292; population figures taken from Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, Series P-25, No. 1022, Table 2.

103. **Juveniles in Custody**. The number of juveniles in custody in public correctional facilities on a given day in 1987 was 53,503, or 208 per 100,000 juveniles in the U.S. This was a 10 percent increase over the number of juveniles in custody on a comparable day in 1983, and an 18 percent increase in the proportion of juveniles incarcerated five years earlier. During the course of the year, over 590,000 juveniles were admitted to public facilities.[1] Data on juveniles in custody in private facilities are not yet available beyond 1985, but in that year 41 percent of all juveniles in custody were in private facilities.

Juveniles in public facilities were predominantly male, and disproportionately black, and four-fifths were 14 to 17 years old. Most of the juveniles in custody, 94 percent, were held for committing offenses that would be criminal if committed by adults. One quarter of the juveniles were being held for having committed violent crimes, and nearly 45 percent for property crimes such as burglary, larceny, and auto theft. The number in custody primarily for drug- and alcohol-related offenses increased by 56 percent between 1985 and 1987.

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[1] Children in Custody, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, October 1988.

Note: Juveniles in the population are persons 10 years old through the statute-defined maximum age subject to juvenile court authority in each state. This maximum age varies from state to state, and exceeds age 17 in many jurisdictions.

Number of Juveniles in Public and Private Juvenile Facilities, and Rate Per 100,000 Juveniles in the Population, 1975-1987

	1975	1979	1983	1985	1987
Number of Juveniles	74,270	71,922	80,091	83,403	
Public	46,980	43,234	48,701	49,322	53,503
Private	27,290	28,688	31,390	34,080	na
Rate (per 100,000)	241	251	290	313	
Public	152	151	176	185	208
Private	89	100	114	128	na

Characteristics of Juveniles Held in Public Juvenile Facilities

	1983		1985		1987	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	48,701	100%	49,322	100%	53,503	100%
Sex						
Male	42,182	87%	42,549	86%	46,272	86%
Female	6,519	13	6,773	14	7,231	14%
Race/Hispanic Origin						
White	27,805	57%	29,969	61%	31,103	58%
Black	18,020	37	18,269	37	20,993	39
Other	1,104	2	1,084	2	1,407	3
Hispanic	5,727	12%	6,551	13%	7,887	15%
Non-Hispanic	41,202	85	42,771	87	45,616	85
Age						
9 years and under	42	<1%	60	<1%	73	<1%
10-13 years	3,104	6	3,181	6	2,811	5
14-17 years	39,571	81	40,640	82	43,898	82
18 years and over	4,890	10	5,441	11	6,721	13
Not reported	1,094	2	--	--	--	--
Reason For Being In Custody						
Delinquent offenses	na		46,086	93%	50,269	94%
Against persons			12,245	25	13,300	25
Against property			22,020	45	23,431	44
Alcohol/drug offenses			2,660	5	4,161	8
Public order offenses			1,936	4	2,380	4
Probation violations			4,557	9	4,200	8
Other delinquent acts			2,668	5	2,797	5
Non-Delinquent reasons			3,236	7	3,234	6
Status offenses			2,293	5	2,523	5
Abuse/neglect			512	1	429	1
Other reasons			431	1	282	1

Source: Children in Custody, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, October, 1986, and 1988; and unpublished data from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, 1989.

104. **Sexual Activity Among Female Teenagers**. The proportion of young unmarried women having sexual intercourse during their teen years increased dramatically among whites and blacks during the 1970s. The proportion of white teen females who had had sexual intercourse continued to increase between 1982 and 1988. Among black females, changes during the 1980s were more variable.

The proportion of young women with sexual experience increases substantially with age during the teen years. In 1988, about one in four females aged 15 had had sexual intercourse at least once. By age 19, four out of five had experienced sexual intercourse. The substantial race differences in the percent sexually experienced that were found in the 1970s seem to have narrowed by the late 1980s.

Percent of Female Teenagers Who Have Ever Experienced Sexual Intercourse by Race and Age, 1971-1988

Whites

	Never Married Teens			Never Married and Married Teens	
Age	1971	1976	1982	1982	1988
15	11%	14%	17%	18%	29%
16	17%	23%	27%	29%	32%
17	22%	36%	36%	40%	46%
18	32%	44%	50%	55%	67%
19	39%	49%	63%	69%	81%

Blacks

	Never Married Teens			Never Married and Married Teens	
Age	1971	1976	1982	1982	1988
15	31%	38%	28%	28%	26%
16	46%	53%	41%	42%	46%
17	59%	68%	55%	55%	69%
18	63%	74%	76%	77%	69%
19	76%	84%	81%	82%	81%

Note: Data on never-married teens only are not yet available for 1988. Because of rapid changes in marriage patterns among teens during this time period, differences in sample definitions can affect conclusions about trends. Comparisons can safely be made only for never-married females between 1971 and 1982 and for females both married and unmarried between 1982 and 1988.

Source: Zelnik, Melvin, & John F. Kantner, "Sexual and Contraceptive Experience of Young Unmarried Women in the United States, 1976 and 1971," Family Planning Perspectives, Vol. 9, No. 2, March/April 1977, Table 1. National Center for Health Statistics, Pratt, William F., William D. Mosher, Christine A. Bachrach, & Marjorie C. Horn, "Understanding U.S. Fertility: Findings from the National Survey of Family Growth, Cycle III," Population Bulletin, Vol. 39, No. 5, December 1984, Table 2. National Center for Health Statistics, London, K. A., W. D. Mosher, W. F. Pratt, & L. B. Williams, "Preliminary Findings from the National Survey of Family Growth, Cycle IV," March 1989.

105. **Sexual Activity and Contraceptive Use Among Male Teenagers**. The proportion of never-married males of aged 17 to 19 reporting that they had had sexual intercourse at least once rose from two-thirds to three-quarters between 1979 and 1988. Higher proportions of black males reported sexual experience in both years.

Contraceptive use also increased, with the use of condoms more than doubling between 1979 and 1988, while the proportion using no method of birth control declined from one-half to one-fifth.

Percent of Male Teenagers Who Have Ever Experienced Sexual Intercourse, by Age and Race, 1979-1988

	All Races		Blacks		Non-Blacks	
	1979	1988	1979	1988	1979	1988
Age						
17-19	66%	76%	71%	88%	65%	73%
17	56%	72%	60%	90%	55%	68%
18	66%	71%	80%	80%	64%	69%
19	78%	88%	80%	98%	77%	86%

Reported Contraceptive Use by Male Teenagers Who Have Ever Had Sexual Intercourse, by Race, 1979-1988 (Percent Distribution)

Contraceptive Method Used Last Time Had Sexual Intercourse	All Races		Blacks		Non-Blacks	
	1979	1988	1979	1988	1979	1988
Condoms	21%	58%	23%	62%	21%	57%
Effective female method, but not condoms.	28%	22%	27%	19%	28%	22%
No method or ineffective method	51%	21%	50%	19%	51%	21%

Note: Samples were restricted to teenagers living in metropolitan areas of the U.S. "Effective" female methods of contraception include oral contraceptives, diaphragm, IUD, or spermicidal sponge, foam, jelly, or suppository.

Source: National Survey of Young Men; Sonenstein, Freya, Joseph Pleck, & Leighton Ku, "At Risk of AIDS," March, 1989, Table 5; Zelnik, M. and J. Kantner, "Sexual Activity, Contraceptive Use and Pregnancy Among Metropolitan-Area Teenagers: 1971-1979," Family Planning Perspectives, 12(5), September/October, 1980.

106. Teens Experiencing Rape. In telephone interviews conducted with a national sample of youth aged 18 to 22 in 1987, significant minorities of youth reported being subjected to forced intercourse. Approximately one in eight white females, one in twelve black females, one in fifty white males, and one in twenty black males reported they had experienced non-voluntary sexual intercourse before they turned 20.

Proportion of Youth Reporting They Were Raped or Forced To Have Sex Against Their Will, by Age at Time, Gender, and Race, 1987

Age At Time of Forced Sexual Intercourse	Females		Males	
	White	Black	White	Black
Before age 14	5.8%	2.9%	.3%	.0%
15	6.3%	3.2%	.4%	1.4%
16	7.5%	3.5%	.4%	4.8%
17	9.1%	5.1%	.4%	5.6%
18	10.8%	5.6%	.4%	6.1%
19	11.9%	6.0%	1.9%	6.1%
20	12.7%	8.0%	1.9%	6.1%

Source: Child Trends, Inc., life table analyses of data from the 1987 National Survey of Children. Moore, Kristin Anderson, Christine Winquist Nord, & James L. Peterson, "Non-Voluntary Sexual Activity Among Adolescents," Family Planning Perspectives, Vol. 21, No. 3, May/June 1989, pp. 110-114.

107. **Abortion**. After increasing rapidly during the 1970s, the number of abortions has stabilized at a level of about one and one-half million annually. The abortion rate (abortions per 1,000 women aged 15-44), and the abortion ratio (abortions per 1,000 live births plus abortions) increased until 1980 and then levelled off. Just under 3 percent of American women aged 15-44 have abortions annually. About three in ten pregnancies end in abortion (not counting miscarriages).

Abortions At All Ages:
Annual Number, Rate, and Ratio, 1973-1985

	1973	1975	1980	1984	1985
Number of Abortions Per Year	744,600	1,034,200	1,553,900	1,577,200	1,588,600
Abortion Rate[1]	16	22	29	28	28
Abortion Ratio[2]	193	249	300	297	298

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[1] Abortions per 1,000 women of ages 15-44 in U.S. population.

[2] Abortions per 1,000 live births plus abortion.

Source: Henshaw, Stanley, Jacqueline Forrest, and Jennifer Van Vort, "Abortion Services in the United States, 1984 and 1985," Family Planning Perspectives, Vol. 19, No. 2, March/April 1987, Tables 1 and 3.

108. **Pregnancies, Abortions, and Births Among Teenagers**. The pregnancy rate increased among teenagers during the 1970s and remained fairly steady during the 1980s, with about 11 percent of females of ages 15-19 becoming pregnant annually. The rate of abortion also increased during the 1970s and has remained level during the 1980s, with a little more than 4 percent of female teens 15-19 having an abortion each year. The number of abortions to teenagers, which rose substantially during the 1970s, fell in the 1980s as the number of teenagers declined. The teen birth rate declined in the early 1970s and has since fluctuated, with about 5 percent of females 15-19 giving birth annually. An additional one-to-two percent of teens experience a miscarriage each year. Rates of pregnancy, abortion, and birth are all higher for non-white than for white teens.

Percent of Young Women 15-19 Experiencing Pregnancy, Abortion, and Birth, by Race, and Annual Number of Abortions to Teenagers, 1974-1985.

	1974	1977	1980	1982	1984	1985
Among all females 15-19, the percent each year:						
Becoming pregnant	9.9%	10.4%	11.1%	11.0%	10.9%	11.0%
Having a legal abortion	2.7%	3.8%	4.3%	4.3%	4.3%	4.4%
Having a birth	5.8%	5.3%	5.3%	5.3%	5.1%	5.1%
Among white females 15-19, the percent each year:						
Becoming pregnant	na	na	9.6%	9.5%	9.3%	9.3%
Having a legal abortion	na	na	3.8%	3.8%	3.8%	3.8%
Having a birth	4.8%	4.4%	4.5%	4.5%	4.3%	4.3%
Among non-white females 15-19, the percent each year:						
Becoming pregnant	na	na	18.6%	18.1%	18.1%	18.6%
Having a legal abortion	na	na	6.6%	6.6%	6.7%	7.1%
Having a birth	11.1%	10.0%	9.5%	9.2%	8.9%	9.0%
All races						
Number of abortions	279,700	396,630	444,780	418,740	398,870	399,200

Source: Henshaw, S. K., and Van Vort, J., "Teenage Abortion, Birth and Pregnancy Statistics: An Update," Family Planning Perspectives, Vol. 21, No. 2, March/April 1989, Table 2. Henshaw, S. K., "Characteristics of U.S. Women Having Abortions, 1982-1983," Family Planning Perspectives, 19:1, Table 5. National Center for Health Statistics, "Advance Report of Final Natality Statistics, 1974," Monthly Vital Statistics Report, Vol. 24, No. 11, Table 3; Hofferth, S. A., and Hayes, C. D. (Eds.), Risking the Future: Adolescent Sexuality, Pregnancy, and Childbearing, Vol. II, Washington, D.C.: National Academy Press, 1987.

109. **Age at First Marriage**. During the 1970s and early 1980s, the proportion of young adults who had never married rose substantially. The proportion never-married has continued to increase in the late 1980s, but at a slower pace. The median age at first marriage (the age by which half of all persons have married) has also risen. In 1988, half of all young women had married by age 23.6 years, compared to by 20.3 years in 1960. Among young men, half had married by age 25.9 years in 1988, compared to by 22.8 years in 1960. Despite the delay in entering marriage, by their late twenties most American young adults have married.

Percentage of U.S. Women Who Are Still Single by Selected Ages, 1960-1988

Age	1960	1970	1980	1986	1987	1988
18	76%	82%	88%	92%	94%	92%
19	60%	69%	78%	85%	86%	86%
20	46%	57%	67%	79%	79%	79%
21	35%	44%	60%	68%	70%	72%
25	13%	14%	28%	34%	37%	39%
29	9%	8%	15%	24%	22%	22%
Median Age at First Marriage	20.3	20.8	22.0	23.1	23.6	23.6

Percentage of U.S. Men Who Are Still Single by Selected Ages, 1960-1988

Age	1960	1970	1980	1986	1987	1988
18	95%	95%	97%	98%	98%	98%
19	87%	90%	91%	95%	96%	95%
20	76%	78%	86%	92%	92%	89%
21	63%	66%	77%	83%	87%	89%
25	28%	27%	43%	54%	57%	57%
29	16%	14%	24%	31%	29%	32%
Median Age at First Marriage	22.8	23.3	24.7	25.7	25.8	25.9

Note: As used here, single means never married.

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, Series P-20, No. 399, *Marital Status and Living Arrangements: March 1984*, Table B; P-20, No. 418, Table A; and earlier reports; and unpublished data from the Current Population Survey, 1989.

110. **Family Roles**. Attitudes of U.S. high school seniors about men's and women's roles in the workplace and family have shifted toward greater acceptance of maternal employment and a more equal division of labor within the family. Among both male and female high school seniors, the proportion who agree that: "A preschool child is likely to suffer if the mother works," dropped dramatically between 1975 and 1988. However, a majority of males continue to agree with this statement.

Since 1975, there has been a significant decline in the proportion of high school seniors who agree that it is better for the man to work outside the home and the woman to remain in the home. In addition, equal pay for equal work and shared house work continue to receive wide acceptance among both male and female students.

Percentage of High School Seniors
Agreeing With Selected Statements
About Men's and Women's Roles,
1975-1988

	1975	1980	1985	1986	1987	1988
"Men and women should be paid the same money if they do the same work."						
Females	97%	99%	98%	98%	98%	98%
Males	86%	90%	89%	90%	90%	91%
"A preschool child is likely to suffer if the mother works."						
Females	59%	45%	38%	35%	36%	35%
Males	74%	63%	61%	58%	58%	58%
"It is usually better for everyone involved if the man is the achiever outside the home and the woman takes care of the home and family."						
Females	36%	36%	26%	21%	22%	19%
Males	55%	59%	48%	46%	46%	42%
"If a wife works, her husband should take a greater part in housework and childcare."						
Females	72%	77%	78%	78%	79%	79%
Males	67%	72%	71%	70%	69%	69%

Source: Child Trends, Inc., trend analysis of data from Monitoring the Future, an annual survey of high school seniors. Johnston, L.D., Bachman, J.G., and O'Malley, P., Monitoring the Future, annual volumes, 1975-86, Ann Arbor, Michigan: Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan, and unpublished data provided May 1989.

111. **Religious Involvement of High School Seniors**. The proportion of high school seniors who attend religious services once a week or more declined from 43 percent in 1980 to 32 percent in 1988. Just over half of the 1988 seniors said they rarely or never attended church. The proportion who describe religion as being very important in their lives has also declined since 1980, but not as sharply. Changes in denominational preference have been slight since 1976. Baptists and Roman Catholics remain the largest denominations.

Church Attendance, Importance of Religion, and Religious Preference Among High School Seniors, 1976-1988

	1976	1980	1985	1986	1987	1988
Frequency of Church Attendance						
Weekly	41%	43%	35%	34%	32%	32%
Once or twice a month	16	16	17	17	16	17
Rarely	32	32	37	37	40	39
Never	11	9	11	12	13	12
Importance of Religion in Own Life						
Very important	29%	32%	27%	26%	25%	26%
Pretty important	31	33	32	33	32	32
A little important	28	25	28	28	29	28
Not important	13	10	13	13	15	14
Religious Preference of Student						
Protestant	54.7%	51.5%	51.8%	50.1%	47.7%	49.3%
Baptist	21.9	19.7	21.8	20.9	19.9	21.5
Methodist	8.6	7.6	7.9	7.5	7.5	7.3
Churches of Christ	4.6	5.1	6.0	6.1	5.5	5.6
Lutheran	7.0	6.2	5.1	5.4	5.0	5.5
Presbyterian	3.5	4.4	3.4	3.2	3.4	3.2
Episcopal	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.6
United Church of Chirs	1.5	1.0	.8	.6	.7	.7
Disciples of Christ	.5	.5	.5	.6	.4	.5
Unitarian	.3	.2	.2	.2	.1	.2
Other Protestant	5.0	5.0	4.4	4.0	3.6	3.2
Roman Catholic	25.6	32.3	28.5	28.3	28.5	26.3
Eastern Orthodox	.3	.4	.3	.4	.5	.4
Latter Day Saints	na	na	1.7	1.7	.9	1.1
Jewish	1.6	1.3	1.2	1.6	2.2	3.2
Other religion	6.5	5.6	5.2	6.0	6.9	7.0
None	11.4	8.9	11.5	11.9	13.3	12.6

Note: Year-to-year fluctuations in denominational affiliation may be due to variations in the kinds of high schools included in the national sample.

Source: Trend analysis by Child Trends, Inc., of data from Monitoring the Future, an annual survey of high school seniors conducted by the Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan, and sponsored by The National Institute of Drug Abuse and other agencies. Johnston, L.D., Bachman, J.G., and O'Malley, P. Monitoring the Future, annual volumes, 1976-1986, Ann Arbor, Michigan: Institute for Social Research, The University of Michigan; and unpublished data provided May 1989.

112. **National Problems That Worry Youth**. When asked how often they worry about each of the national problems listed below, U.S. high school seniors are most apt to report worry about crime and violence and drug abuse. Concern about crime had been on the decline, but rose sharply in 1988; and concern about drug abuse is higher than in any of the years reported since 1975. Worries about hunger and poverty and race relations are also high. Concern about the chance of nuclear war increased sharply in the late 1970s and early 1980s, reaching a peak in 1986. Since then, this concern has abated somewhat. Worry about economic problems, pollution, loss of open land, energy shortages, and population growth have all declined.

Percentage of High School Seniors Who Often Worry About Selected National Problems, 1975-1988

National Problem	1975	1981	1985	1986	1987	1988
Crime and violence	54%	53%	45%	37%	37%	45%
Drug abuse	31	33	33	32	39	43
Hunger and poverty	27	21	28	24	22	24
Race relations	19	19	16	16	17	22
Chance of nuclear war	8	24	25	28	19	19
Economic problems	32	32	19	19	17	18
Pollution	37	23	13	12	14	14
Loss of open land	19	13	11	9	12	11
Population growth	20	10	6	6	6	6
Energy shortages	36	36	7	6	6	5

Source: Trend analysis by Child Trends, Inc. of data from Monitoring the Future, an annual survey of high school seniors conducted by the Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan, and sponsored by the National Institute of Drug Abuse and other agencies. Johnston, L.D., Bachman, J.G., and O'Malley, P. Monitoring the Future, annual volumes, 1975-1986; Ann Arbor, Michigan: Institute for Social Research, The University of Michigan; and unpublished data provided May 1989.

113. **Attitudes of High School Seniors About Racial Discrimination**. While nearly 2 of 3 high school seniors feel that relations between blacks and whites are getting better, the proportion feeling this way has declined significantly from the peak of 76 percent in 1985. A substantial minority of white high school seniors hold negative attitudes towards other races and wish to keep them at arm's length at work, school, and in the neighborhood. White students are 2-to-3 times as likely to hold such views as are black students. For example, 13 percent of white students find having a job where most are of a different race unacceptable, while only 4 percent of black students find this situation unacceptable. Twenty-six percent of whites say they cannot accept their future children going to schools where most are of a different race; 10 percent of blacks find this unacceptable. However, such negative views have moderated somewhat since the mid-1970s.

Percent of High School Seniors Who Say Each Racial Situation is "Not At All Acceptable," 1975-1988

Situation	1975	1980	1985	1986	1987	1988
Having your (future) children go to schools where most of the children are of other races						
Total	25%	27%	21%	21%	21%	21%
Whites	na	30	25	25	25	26
Blacks	na	10	8	8	9	10
Living in an area where most of the neighbors are of other races						
Total	22%	23%	18%	18%	18%	19%
Whites	na	26	22	22	22	23
Blacks	na	7	6	7	8	9
Having a job where most of the employees are of a different race						
Total	13%	14%	11%	11%	11%	10%
Whites	na	16	12	13	12	13
Blacks	na	4	4	4	5	4
Having a family of a different race (but same level of education and income) move next door to you						
Total	6%	6%	6%	6%	4%	4%
Whites	na	6	6	6	4	5
Blacks	na	4	4	2	3	2

Percent of High School Seniors Who Say Relations Between Blacks and Whites in the U.S. Are Getting "Better" or "A Little Better," 1975-1988

	1975	1980	1985	1986	1987	1988
Total	67%	72%	76%	72%	68%	65%
Whites	na	72	76	72	68	65
Blacks	na	69	77	76	66	63

Source: Trend analysis by Child Trends, Inc., of data from Monitoring the Future, an annual survey of high school seniors conducted by the Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan, and sponsored by the National Institute of Drug Abuse and other agencies. Johnston, L.D., Bachman, J.G., and O'Malley, P. Monitoring the Future, annual volumes, 1975-1986, Ann Arbor, Michigan: Institute for Social Research, The University of Michigan, and unpublished data provided May 1989

114. **Attitudes Toward Military Service in the Event of War**. A majority of male high school seniors say that, if they felt it were necessary for the U.S. to fight in some future war, they would volunteer for military service. However, a third say they would not volunteer, and 15 percent say that, in their opinion, there is no such thing as a "necessary" war. The proportion of males willing to volunteer rose significantly from the mid-1970s to the mid-1980s, but has levelled off in recent years. Female students are much less likely to say they would volunteer. The proportion of females saying there is no such thing as a necessary war has fluctuated over the years.

Attitudes of High School Seniors Toward Military Service in the Event of a Necessary War, 1976-1987

	1976	1980	1985	1986	1987
Males					
Would volunteer	43%	47%	56%	55%	53%
Would not volunteer	39	37	29	32	33
No such thing as necessary war	18	16	15	13	15
Females					
Would volunteer	18%	22%	22%	21%	21%
Would not volunteer	52	55	50	56	49
No such thing as necessary war	30	22	28	24	30

Source: Trend analysis by Child Trends, Inc., of data from Monitoring the Future, an annual survey of high school seniors conducted by the Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan, and sponsored by the National Institute of Drug Abuse and other agencies. Johnston, L.D., Bachman, J.G., and O'Malley, P., Monitoring the Future, annual volumes, 1976-1986, Ann Arbor, Michigan: Institute for Social Research, The University of Michigan; and unpublished data provided May 1989.

115. **Subjective Reports of Emotional Well-Being: High-School Seniors and College Freshmen**. More than one-third of high school seniors agree with the statement, "A lot of times I feel lonely." However, 87 percent of seniors describe themselves as "pretty happy" or "very happy," and 64 percent report being satisfied with their lives as a whole. In annual surveys conducted from 1976 to 1987, there has been little change in these reports of subjective well-being among high school seniors. Surveys of college freshmen suggest some improvement in well-being between 1971 and 1985, with a slight decline since then. The percent rating themselves "above average" in emotional health has declined during the late 1980s.

Subjective Well-Being of High School Seniors, 1976-1987

Percent Distribution

High-School Seniors	1976	1980	1985	1986	1987
Very, pretty, or not too happy					
Very happy	18.0%	16.9%	18.1%	17.3%	17.7%
Pretty happy	68.8%	66.4%	69.5%	68.6%	69.7%
Not too happy	13.1%	16.7%	12.4%	14.1%	12.6%
Often lonely					
Agree	na	34.2%	34.2%	36.6%	33.8%
Neither	na	17.9%	18.0%	18.4%	17.9%
Disagree	na	47.8%	47.9%	45.1%	48.4%
Satisfied with life					
Satisfied	64.1%	65.5%	67.2%	64.0%	63.6%
Neutral	24.0%	23.9%	21.7%	23.7%	23.9%
Dissatisfied	11.8%	10.7%	11.1%	12.3%	12.4%

Percent of College Freshman Rating Themselves "Above Average" in Cheerfulness and Emotional Health, 1971-1988

College Freshmen	1971	1976	1980	1985	1987	1988
Cheerfulness	51.6%	55.4%	57.7%	na	na	na
Emotional health	na	na	na	60.3%	56.8%	56.1%

Source: Child Trends, Inc., trend analysis of data from Monitoring the Future and annual survey of entering college freshmen, 1989.
L. Johnston, J. Bachman, and P. O'Malley, Monitoring the Future, University of Michigan: Institute for Social Research, annual volumes, 1975-1986; and unpublished data provided May 1989; A. Astin, K. Green, W. Korn, and M. Schalit, The American Freshman, University of California, Los Angeles: The Higher Education Research Institute, annual volumes, 1971-1988.

SELECTED GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS AFFECTING CHILDREN

116. **Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC).** With average family size decreasing between 1965 and 1986, the proportion of AFDC recipients who are children has declined, but children still comprise two-thirds of all recipients. Constant-dollar average payments per family have decreased 23 percent since 1970, from $471 to $361. The number of families receiving benefits increased 73 percent during that time, although the number has remained steady at just under four million since 1980. The total number of children served increased only 19 percent, from 6.2 million in 1970 to 7.4 million in 1980. Since 1980, the number of children served has levelled off.

States establish their own need and benefit levels within federal limitations. Children and their primary related caretaker (usually the mother) become eligible through having an absent father or one who is incapacitated, unemployed, or deceased. States with higher levels of support, such as California, provide approximately $500 per family, whereas states with lower levels, such as Alabama, provide as little as $114 per family.

Aid to Families with Dependent Children: Average Monthly Recipients and Program Cost, 1965-1987

Recipients	1965	1970	1980	1985	1986	1987
Number of children (millions)	3.3	6.2	7.4	7.2	7.3	7.4
Number of families (millions)	1.0	2.2	3.7	3.7	3.8	3.8
Children per family	3.1	2.8	2.0	1.9	1.9	2.0
Total payments	(Billions of Dollars)					
Current dollars	$1.7	$4.9	$12.5	$15.2	$16.0	$16.4
Constant (1987) dollars	$6.1	$12.6	$17.2	$16.1	$16.6	$16.4
Children as a percentage of recipients	75%	73%	69%	66%	66%	67%
Monthly average payments per family	$133	$183	$280	$342	$355	$361
In constant 1987 dollars	$476	$471	$386	$363	$368	$361

Note: Constant dollars are based on the Consumer Price Index from the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Source: Trend analysis by Child Trends, Inc., of data in Statistical Bulletin, Annual Supplement, Social Security Bulletin, December 1988, and unpublished data.

117. **Teen Mothers Receiving Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC)**. Overall, just over a quarter of teen mothers received AFDC in their first child's first two years of life. Among mothers who were teenagers at the birth of their first child, half of those who remained unmarried received Aid to Families with Dependent Children at some time during the child's first two years. Among those who were married at the time of the child's birth, only 7 percent received AFDC in the first year, and only 8 percent received payments in the child's second year.

Percent of Adolescent Mothers[1] Receiving AFDC For At Least One Month During their First Child's First Two Years of Life, 1985

	Child's Age:	
	0-12 months	13-24 months
All Adolescent Mothers	27%	28%
Married at child's birth	7%	8%
Not married at child's birth	48%	50%
Mothers aged[2] 15-17	29%	32%
Mothers aged 18-19	26%	25%

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[1] The mothers were between 21 and 26 years of age in 1985 and were between 15 and 19 years of age when they had their first child. The children in the survey sample were born between 1978 and 1983.

[2] Age of mother at birth of child.

Source: Data on adolescent mothers are from Congressional Budget Office calculations based on the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth (1979-1985) and reported in Background Material and Data on Programs Within the Jurisdiction of the Committee on Ways and Means, 1989, Table 37, page 589.

118. **Medicaid**. The total cost of Medicaid (in constant 1987 dollars) has risen steadily since 1972, from $6.3 to $45.1 billion dollars. Children remain half of all recipients, but their proportion of total Medicaid expenditures has fallen considerably since the early 1970s, dropping from one dollar in three spent in 1972 to only one dollar in seven spent in 1987. Despite an increase in the percentage of all poor children covered by Medicaid since 1980, nearly half of all poor children do not receive it. However, as of 1987, states are required to cover all children under 7 years of age who meet AFDC income and resource requirements.

Medicaid Costs and Children As a Proportion of Recipients and Costs, FY 1972-1987

	FY1972	FY1975	FY1980	FY1985	FY1986	FY1987
Total cost of Federal and state vendor payments:			(Billions of Dollars)			
Current dollars	$6.3	$12.3	$23.3	$37.5	$41.0	$45.1
Constant (1987) dollars	$17.1	$26.0	$32.1	$39.6	$42.5	$45.1
Children[1] as a proportion of recipients	53%	52%	50%	50%	51%	50%
Proportion of total vendor payments expended on children	32%	22%	16%	14%	15%	15%

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[1] Children includes all persons aged 0 through 20.

Note: Constant dollars calculated on the basis of the Consumer Price Index, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Source: Trend analysis by Child Trends, Inc., of data from Annual Supplement, Social Security Bulletin, December 1988.

119. **Food Stamp Program**. Participation in the Food Stamp program increased steadily during the late 1960s and 1970s, as it was extended from a pilot to a nationwide program. By 1982, nearly one person in ten participated in the program. Since then, participation has declined by nearly 14 percent. The average amount received, in constant dollars, has not changed since 1980. In the 1989 fiscal year, $300 is the current maximum available for a family of four, based on the cost of the USDA's "Thrifty Food Plan." Families are also expected to contribute 30 percent of their incomes toward food purchase. Thus, many do not receive the maximum benefit.

The proportion of recipients who are children was estimated to be 51 percent in 1984. About three in five households that receive food stamps contain children. Eligible families that contain children are more likely to obtain food stamps than are those families who are eligible but without children.

Food Stamp Program: Participation and Costs, 1965-1988

	1965	1970	1980	1985	1986	1987	1988
(Millions of Persons)							
Persons participating	.4	4.3	19.2	19.9	19.4	19.1	18.7
(Billions of Dollars)							
Expenditures							
Current dollars	.03	.55	8.7	10.2	10.6	10.5	12.0
Constant (1988) dollars	.1	1.7	12.5	11.2	11.4	10.9	12.0
(Dollars)							
Monthly maximum for a family of four	na	na	$204	$264	$268	$271	$290
Monthly maximum in constant (1988) dollars	na	na	$293	$290	$289	$282	$290
Monthly average received per person	$6.39	$10.58	$34.34	$45.99	$45.49	$45.84	$49.80
In constant (1988) dollars	$24.00	$32.26	$49.30	$50.56	$49.10	$47.74	$49.80

Note: Data on number of recipients are for December of each year. Constant dollars are calculated on the basis of the Consumer Price Index, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Source: Social Security Bulletin, Annual Statistical Supplement, 1988.

120. **School Lunch Program**. Currently, 24 million school lunches are served daily. The proportion of school lunches that were provided free or at a reduced price rose from one in ten to one in two between the 1960s and the 1980s, with a doubling between 1970 and 1975. Federal funding increased steadily (in constant 1988 dollars) until 1980. Since 1980, federal dollars for the program have been reduced by 25 percent.

School Lunch Program: Lunches Served and Costs, 1960-1988

	1960	1970	1975	1980	1985	1987	1988
			(Millions of Lunches)				
Total Lunches Served[1]	14.1	22.4	24.9	26.6	23.6	24.0	24.2
Proportion of total lunches served that were free or reduced-price	10%	21%	40%	45%	49%	49%	47%
Total Federal cost (cash plus commodities)			(Billions of Dollars)				
Current dollars	$.23	$.57	$1.71	$3.19	$3.39	$3.35	$3.45
Constant (1988) dollars[2]	$.92	$1.74	$3.76	$4.58	$3.73	$3.49	$3.45

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[1] Free, reduced-price, or regular price school lunches, average daily basis. Peak month basis used in 1960.

[2] Constant dollars calculated on the basis of the Consumer Price Index, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Source: Child Trends tabulations based on data from the U.S. Department of Agriculture and U.S. House of Representatives, Committee on Ways and Means, Background Material and Data on Programs Within the Jurisdiction of the Committee on Ways and Means, 1989.

121. **Women, Infants, and Children Feeding Program (WIC)**. Participation in the Special Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants, and Children requires an income of less than 185 percent of the poverty level, with some states requiring a lower income than this. WIC participation also includes a "nutritional risk" requirement, which not all low-income persons meet. There are about 7.5 million persons at risk, considering both nutritional and income requirements. There were 3.6 million participants in the WIC program in 1988, slightly fewer than half of the persons eligible to participate. Children and infants constitute three-quarters of the participants, with pregnant women comprising the other 25 percent.

WIC Feeding Program: Participation and Costs, FY 1975-1988

	FY1975	FY1980	FY1985	FY1986	FY1987	FY1988
			(Millions of Persons)			
Participants	.5	1.9	3.1	3.3	3.4	3.6
Expenditures			(Billions of Dollars)			
Current dollars	.09	.73	1.49	1.58	1.66	1.80
Constant (1988) dollars	.20	1.05	1.64	1.71	1.73	1.80
Children as a percentage of recipients	75%	79%	79%	79%	74%	77%

Source: Tabulations by Child Trends, Inc., of data from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service and U.S. House of Representatives, Committee On Ways and Means, 1989; and U.S. Department of Agriculture, "Estimation of Eligibility for the WIC Programs," 1987.

122. **Head Start**. The Head Start Program, a comprehensive preschool program for low-income children, serves fewer than one in five children who are aged three to five and living in poor families. It provides developmental child care, nutrition services, medical and dental screening, and social services to the family. It began in 1965 as a summer program. Enrollment has increased 19 percent since 1980, from 376,300 children to an estimated 452,314 in 1989. Spending (in 1988 dollars) has increased only 12 percent during the 1980s.

Head Start Program: Participation and Costs, FY 1970-1988

	FY1970	FY1980	FY1985	FY1986	FY1987	FY1988
			(Thousands of Children)			
Enrollment[1]	477	376	452	452	447	448
Federal appropriation			(Millions of Dollars)			
Current dollars	$326	$735	$1,075	$1,040	$1,131	$1,206
Constant (1988) dollars	$994	$1,055	$1,182	$1,123	$1,178	$1,206

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[1] Enrollment figures for 1970 include both summer and full-year pupils, and are not comparable to later figures. Only full-year services have been available since 1982.

Source: Background Material and Data on Programs within the Jurisdiction of the Committee on Ways and Means, U.S. House of Representatives, 1989, Table 30, p. 1166.

123. **Child Care**. While the Federal Government does not have a program to provide child care to all working parents, direct federal spending for day-care programs amounted to approximately 2 billion dollars a year in 1986. In addition, it has been estimated that individuals spend between $12 and $15 billion per year out of pocket providing child care for their children. The Dependent Care Tax Credit (which provides tax relief to working families with child care expenses and enough income to pay federal income tax) transfers $2 billion annually to working families through the federal income tax system. The second largest "care" program is Head Start, which is not designed for use by working parents but is a developmental preschool program aimed at poor children. Third is the Social Services Block Grant, which funds public day care for low-income, working parents.

Federal Spending for Child Care, 1977-1986

(Millions of 1988 Dollars)

	1977	1980	1984	1986
Title XX Social Services Block Grant	$809	$600	$535	$660
Head Start	448	735	996	1040
Area Economic and Human Resource Development Program	9	11	1	0
Child Care Food Program	120	217	357	484
Job Training Partnership Act	0	0	30	30
Aid to Families with Dependent Children (work-expense disregard)	84	60	35	35
Work Incentive Program (WIN)	57	115	0	0
Food Stamps (work expense disregard)	35	35	35	50
Tax Exclusion for Employer-Provided Child Care	0	0	40	110
Subtotal	$1,562	$1,773	$2,028	$2,409
Dependent Care Tax Credit	521	956	2,649	3,410
Total	$2,083	$2,729	$4,677	$5,546

Source: Philip K. Robins, "Federal Support for Child Care: Current Policies and a Proposed New System," Focus, v. 11, number 2 (Summer, 1988), University of Wisconsin, Institute for Research on Poverty and the U.S. Department of Labor and U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, 1989.

124. **Family Planning Services**. About four million persons, a third of them adolescents, receive federally-funded family planning services through Title X of the Public Health Service Act. The amounts spent under Title X funding, in constant dollars, have declined during the 1980s. Medicaid payments have increased over the same years. Medicaid payments in all states currently cover family planning services for low-income women who qualify.

Family Planning Services: Federal Sources and Costs, FY 1975-1989

	FY1975	FY1980	FY1985	FY1986	FY1987	FY1988	FY1989
Medicaid vendor payments for family planning services			(Millions of Dollars)				
Current dollars	$67	$81	$195	$226	$227	na	na
Constant (1988) dollars	$147	$116	$214	$244	$236	na	na
Title X (Public Health Service Act) appropriations							
Current dollars	$101	$165	$143	$136	$143	$137	$135
Constant (1988) dollars	$222	$237	$157	$147	$149	$137	$131

Source: Data on Medicaid payments from Social Security Bulletin, Annual Statistical Supplement, 1988. Data on Title X appropriations from: The Office of Family Planning, Office of Population Affairs, DHHS, 1989. See also R. Gold and S. Guardado, "Public Funding of Family Planning, Sterilization and Abortion Services, 1987," Family Planning Perspectives, 20, 228-230.

125. **Characteristics of Recipients of Government Programs**. Nearly 30 percent of all U.S. children received some form of government benefit payment during a 32-month period from 1983 to 1986, compared with 18 percent of the entire population. Black and Hispanic persons and those in households headed by a woman are more likely to receive some form of major assistance. Even among persons in married-couple families, more than one in ten will receive government transfers over a three-year period.

Education greatly decreases the likelihood that one will receive assistance payments. Whereas only 12 percent of persons over age 19 who have at least a high school education but less than a college degree receive benefits, fully 30 percent of those who have not graduated from high school receive some support.

Percent of Persons in Each Category Receiving One or More Government Benefits During a 32-Month Period, 1983-1986

Total	18%
Age of Recipient	
Under 18	27%
Under 6	30%
Race/Ethnicity of Recipient	
White	14%
Black	49%
Hispanic	34%
Family Structure	
Married Couple	11%
Female Householder	67%
Never married	83%
Education of Persons over 19	
Less than 12 years	30%
Twelve to 15 years	12%
College graduate	3%
Residence of Recipient	
Central city	24%
Suburban ring	12%
Non-metropolitan	21%

Note: Major assistance includes AFDC, food stamps, Medicaid, SSI, General Assistance, and housing assistance. Hispanic persons may be either black or white. The female householder and never-married female householder families include children under age 18. Married-couple families may not have children present.

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, Series P-70, No. 14, Characteristics of Persons Receiving Benefits from Major Assistance Programs, April 1989.

U.S. Children and Their Families: Current Conditions and Recent Trends, 1989

Additional Views

Many of the trends which have been presented in this and in the Committee's prior reports are neither new nor dramatic. But even meandering streams can erode fertile topsoil and cut through granite. To state the obvious, we cannot separate what is happening to children from what is happening within their families.

We cannot feign surprise that single parent families are still doing poorly or that high school dropouts were left out of the economic boom. We have known about these trends and their impact for some time, but they are lessons which are not being heeded.

Yet, despite this knowledge, we must take exception to the introductory statement that the "test is whether we are motivated to promote policies that we know can reverse these alarming trends in the 1990s, or whether we will enter the 21st century besieged by the worst effects of our failure." For the past two decades, we have known that single parenthood is a prescription for poverty, regardless of race. As table A shows, seventy percent of children living with both parents were in families with incomes of $25,000 or more per year, but only 12 percent of children living with mothers only achieved this economic level. Conversely, about 47 percent of the children living with single mothers were in families with income levels below $7,500, compared with a mere 4 percent of those residing with both parents.

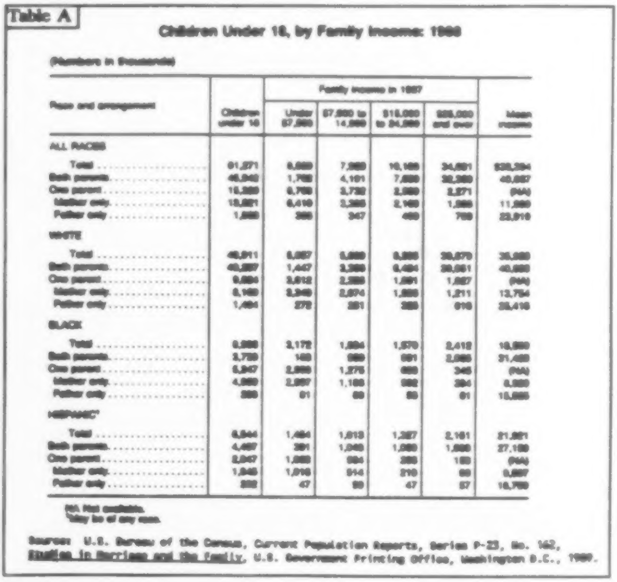


Table A

Children Under 18, by Family Income: 1988

(Numbers in thousands)

Race and arrangement	Children under 18	Family income in 1987				Mean income
		Under $7,500	$7,500 to 14,999	$15,000 to 24,999	$25,000 and over	
ALL RACES						
Total	61,271	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	34,601	[illegible]
Both parents	[illegible]	[illegible]	4,101	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
One parent	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	2,271	(NA)
Mother only	[illegible]	6,410	[illegible]	2,160	[illegible]	[illegible]
Father only	[illegible]	[illegible]	347	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
WHITE						
Total	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Both parents	[illegible]	1,447	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
One parent	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	(NA)
Mother only	8,160	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	1,211	13,754
Father only	1,404	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
BLACK						
Total	[illegible]	3,172	[illegible]	1,570	2,412	[illegible]
Both parents	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
One parent	[illegible]	[illegible]	1,275	[illegible]	[illegible]	(NA)
Mother only	[illegible]	[illegible]	1,166	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Father only	[illegible]	61	[illegible]	[illegible]	61	[illegible]
HISPANIC¹						
Total	[illegible]	1,484	1,613	[illegible]	2,161	[illegible]
Both parents	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
One parent	2,047	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	(NA)
Mother only	[illegible]	1,016	[illegible]	210	[illegible]	[illegible]
Father only	[illegible]	47	[illegible]	47	57	[illegible]

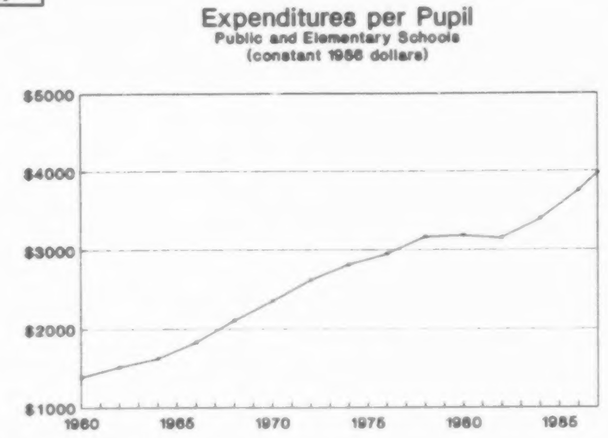
NA Not available.
¹May be of any race.

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, Series P-23, No. 162, Studies in Marriage and the Family, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington D.C., 1989.

The number of one-parent family groups with children under age 18 has increased by 146 percent since 1970, but Congress has not offered any policy which would effectively reverse this trend. There is no national program we know of which has proven its ability to end premarital sexual activity and teenage pregnancy; we know of no national strategy to reverse the 33 percent decline in economic status women experience with divorce.

We have long known that the best program for our children is still an education. The average per pupil expenditure is currently over five times higher than in 1970 (see Graph 1). Yet, despite the steady increase in public expenditures on education, we know of no national solution to keep each and every child in school until he or she has mastered the necessary skills to successfully compete in the job market.

Graph 1



Expenditures per Pupil
Public and Elementary Schools
(constant 1986 dollars)

Source: Department of Education,
Office of Research and Improvement

Furthermore, we are wary of any possible Federal government action, rule, or regulation which could potentially make a significant difference in these areas. When we consider precisely the pressure points for government intervention, we find that it is because families are no longer doing certain things for themselves: receiving child support from fathers who are now absent, providing child care, teaching that drugs are dangerous and illicit sexual activity carries the high risk of undesired consequences. Intervention into these family matters demands Solomonic judgment which is rarely found in the *Federal Register*. Thus, we are not inclined to proclaim that "policies that we know can reverse these alarming trends" indeed exist.

We hesitate to simply agree with that introductory statement also because as a people, we still have not come to grips with our sense of welfare--is it a temporary "safety net" meant only to provide some minimal relief in economic downturn? Or has it become a way of life for many?

Another reason for extreme caution is that by "giving" assistance, we take considerable risk in taking something more important away--pride, self esteem, respect, etc. Through the select committee hearings, the theme we have heard time and again from young people is that they want respect and that their failures are often attributed to lack of self-esteem. Bureaucratic rules and procedures which are intended to provide equal protection often assault human dignity. Each new "reform" becomes more complicated and threatens to become more coercive than the last.

We also know that a child often is at risk for a multiplicity of problems. But as long as Congress insists on micromanaging the present piecemeal systems, it seems likely that children will continue to fall between the gaps which exist virtually by design. Thus, we cannot claim that Federal policies will indeed reverse these trends.

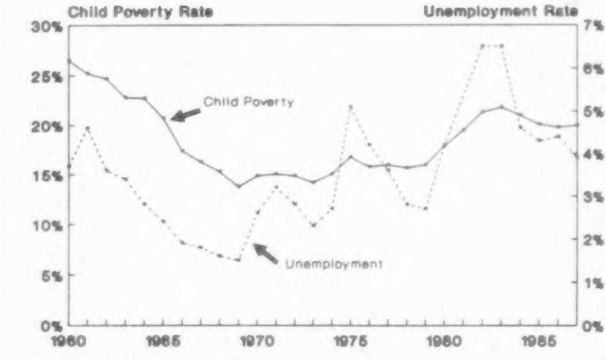
In a positive note, the Report affirms that children can change their future by staying in school, avoiding trouble with the law, and not having their own children until they are able to support them. Young people need to know that the labor market is expanding for those who stay in school and get a solid education. There is no shortage of capital to invest in people with skill and training. This is both the history and the legacy and the promise for the future of the unique association of people we call the United States.

Finally, families need a strong economy. The employment status of a family householder is a strong indicator of the poverty status of a family. When the economy is weak, unemployment is high, and there is a greater chance that households--and children-- will be in poverty. As Graph 2 shows, the rise and fall of the percentage of children in poverty almost exactly coincides with the

Graph 2

Poverty and Unemployment

Child Poverty and the Unemployment Rate for Heads of Households



Source: Census Bureau and Department of Labor rise and fall of unemployment of the head of the household. In general, if the head of the household is employed, the household is not poor. According to the March 1988 "Current Population Survey," only 5.7 percent of families in which the householder was employed were poor.

We would like to caution readers on interpreting some of the data presented in the report. Some of the statistics, while not inaccurate, could be misleading.

The statistics on child abuse are not as straight-forward as they may seem. Child abuse is both over- and under-reported. Only 40% of all child abuse and neglect reports are substantiated, which, of course, suggests the there is some degree of over-reporting. Yet at the same time, under-reporting is estimated to be as high as 68%.[1] So it is uncertain how much "reporting" is reflective of the actual rate of abuse.

The foster care data could easily be misinterpreted. It should be emphasized that not all states participate in the Voluntary Cooperative Information System; and among the states that do, there are 21 different definitions for the foster care population and 14 different definitions for the adoption population. The national estimates of the number and characteristics of children are projected from a non-scientific collection of data, so we cannot be sure of its ultimate reliability. In fact, the group that oversees the VCIS cautions that the data is "fragile."[2]

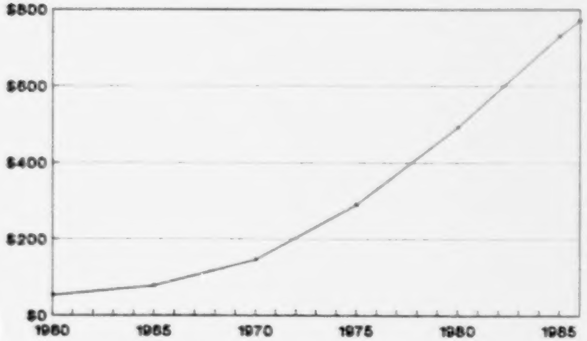
The series of tables dealing with the child care arrangements of families with employed mothers fails to acknowledge families in which the mother provides the child care. Such families are no small group: roughly half of all mothers with children under three are not in the labor force.[3] Not emphasizing this group contributes to the ongoing neglect of this type of family in public policy.

We are including rather lengthy views on public spending in following Graphs 3-9 because the report includes budget information only on a few Federal spending programs. Anyone who seeks to be fully informed cannot rely solely on those few programs.

We should not pretend that these funding choices over the years are accidents or that somehow decision-making through the public policy process is in the hands of something other than the Congress. To this end, we have made certain choices as a society to respond to need and redistribute income. Indeed, this is precisely what has been done in the commitment to the elderly. In 1970, 37.5% of social welfare expenditures went for social insurance programs. Now, 50 percent of these expenditures are devoted to these programs. When the elderly's share of means-tested programs, most especially Medicaid, is factored in, their share is even larger.

It is important to have the following budgetary information if the public discourse on the status of children is to be pursued on a fully informed basis. We would also hope that the reader will look at state and local programs. We cannot debate funding for children's programs apart from the rest of the budget. Thus, we offer a broader view of the commitment to social programs.

GRAPH 3:
Public Social Welfare Expenditures
(in billions)



Source: Social Security, Annual Statistical Supplement, 1988.

Social welfare expenditures from all public sources have had sustained growth from 1960 on, with the most rapid growth beginning in 1970 and continuing to the present. Social welfare expenditures are currently 15 times what they were in 1960.* During the 1970 to 1986 expansion, expenditures increased an average of $39 billion per year.

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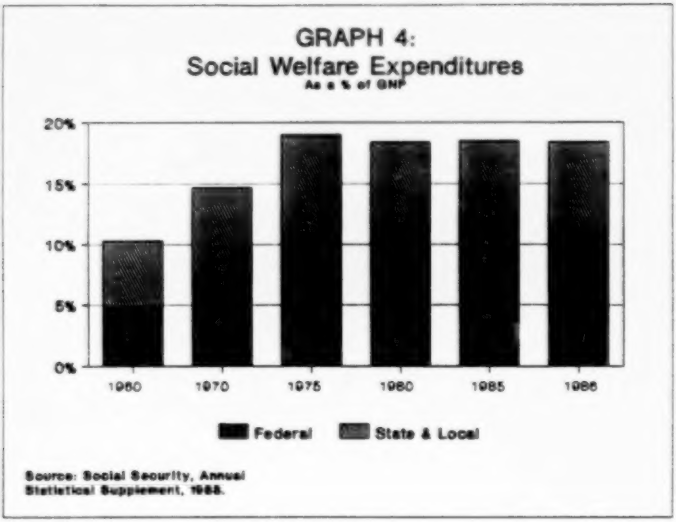
* Social welfare expenditures were $52.3 billion in 1960 and $770.5 billion in 1986.



GRAPH 4:
Social Welfare Expenditures
As a % of GNP

Source: Social Security, Annual Statistical Supplement, 1988.

As a percentage of GNP, state and local social welfare expenditures have remained fairly steady at about 7% of GNP. Federal expenditures, in contrast, have more than doubled their percentage from 1960 to 1986.*

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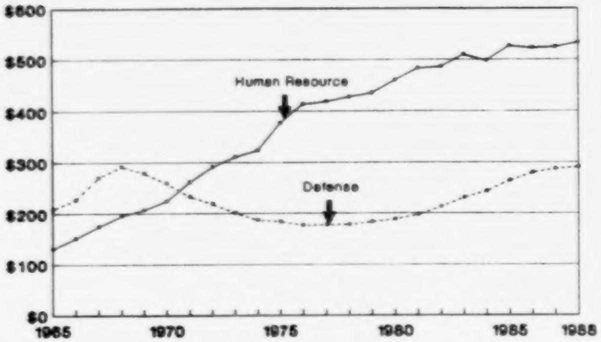
* In 1960, the federal expenditures as a percentage of GNP were 4.9%; in 1986, they were 11.3% – an increase of 130%.

GRAPH 5:
Outlays for Human Resources & Defense
(billions of constant 1988 dollars)



Source: 1990 Budget Perspectives,
CRS, 89-87 EPW, table 1.4

We currently spend 80% more on human resource programs than we spend on defense.* When placed in historical context, human resource programs have enjoyed vastly greater funding: since 1965, the federal government has spent $9.4 trillion on human resource programs and $5.5 trillion on defense (both figures are in constant 1988 dollars).+

Human resource spending has risen fairly steadily from 1965 until present. Defense spending, in contrast, declined sharply after 1968, fell below human resource spending in 1971, and bottomed out in 1976. Since 1976, defense spending has increased, but it is still well below human resource expenditures.

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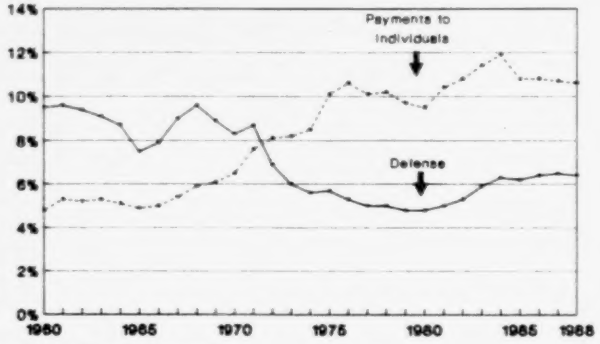
[*] Outlays for human resource programs are $533 billion, and $290 for defense.

[+] It should be remembered that this is *federal* spending only; it does not include the large amount of money state and local governments have spent on human resource programs.

GRAPH 6:
Defense vs. Payments to Individuals

outlays as a % of GNP



Source: United States Budget 1990
Historical Tables

For the purposes of program analysis, some economists believe that the absolute value of spending for a program -- that is, the actual dollar number -- is less important than the expenditure expressed as a percent of Gross National Product. Using percentage terms shows the outlay in relation to the overall economy, and thus, gives a better perspective on the relative size and growth of programs.

In 1960, government spending for payments to individuals represented 4.8% of GNP, and spending for national defense represented 9.5%. Payments to individuals subsequently increased while defense spending followed a general downward trend. By 1971 the two were roughly equal -- about 7.5% of GNP. From 1971 to 1976, defense spending fell sharply and payments to individuals rose sharply. Payments currently exceed defense by 65%.

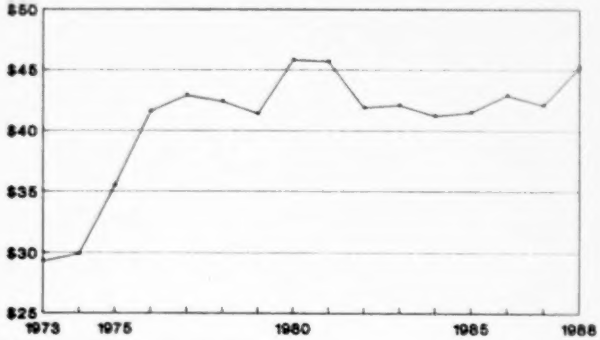
For the entire period from 1960 to 1988, payments to individuals increased by 120% while defense decreased by a third.*

---

* Human resource programs were 4.8% in 1965 and 10.6% in 1988; defense spending was 9.5% in 1965 and 6.4% in 1988.

GRAPH 7: Federal Outlays
Major Programs Targeted to Children

(in billions of constant dollars)



Source: Committee on Ways and Means, March 1989

After expansion in the early 1970s, spending on children's programs has remained fairly consistent. The programs with the largest gains have been the Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants, and Children and Education for the Handicapped. In real terms, WIC is eight times its level in 1976. During the same time frame, EHA increased sevenfold.*

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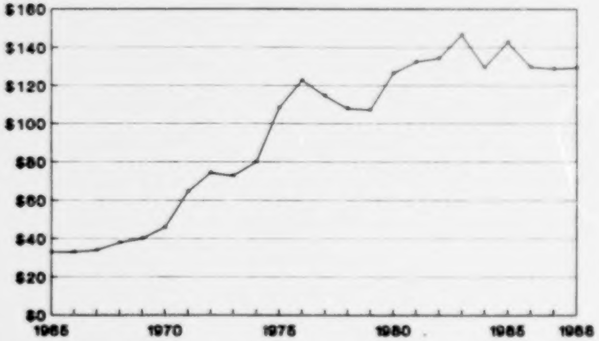
* Outlays for WIC and Education for the Handicapped in 1976 were both $200 million. By 1988, the outlays had risen to $1.6 billion and $1.4 billion respectively.

GRAPH 8:
Federal Outlays for Income Security
(billions of constant 1988 dollars)



Source: 1990 Budget Perspectives,
CRS, 89-87 EPW, table 2.3

Current real outlays for income security are about four times what they were in 1965.* The growth has not been steady since income security programs are counter-cyclical; and therefore, tend to increase in times of economic downturns and decrease in economic booms. Most notably, income security rose dramatically during early 1970's stagflation, and declined during the economic recovery during the mid and late 1980's.

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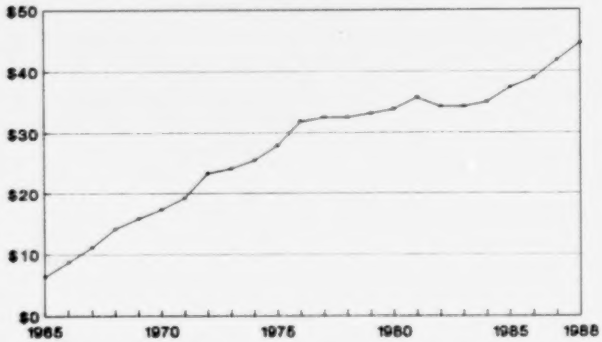
[*] In constant 1988 dollars, income security outlays were $33 billion in 1965 and $129 billion in 1988.

GRAPH 9:
Federal Spending for Health

(in billions of constant 1988 dollars)



Source: 1990 Budget Perspectives,
CRS, 89-87 EPW, table 2.3

Federal spending for health has increased dramatically over the last several decades. Current outlays for health are 25 times what they were in 1965.* Even after adjusting for inflation the current levels of outlays are six times the level in 1965.+

From 1965 to 1976 health outlays rose steadily; expenditures increased an average of $2.4 billion per year in constant dollars. The rate of growth slowed during the next five years; and there was a dip in real expenditures in 1982. From 1983 till present, there has been $2.1 billion per year real growth.

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* Outlays were $1.7 billion in 1965 and $44.5 billion in 1988.

+ In constant 1988 dollars, outlays for health in 1965 were $6.3 billion.

Endnotes

1. See Select Committee on Children, Youth, and Families, *Abused Children in America: Victims of Official Neglect*, March 1987, p. 338.

2. Department of Health and Human Services, *Child Welfare Chartbook: 1985 Substitute Care-Adoption*, data collected from the Voluntary Cooperative Information System of the American Public Welfare Association.

3. Census Bureau, *Population Profile of the United States 1989*, Series P-23, No. 159, April 1989.

(Signed) THOMAS J. BLILEY, JR.,
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FRANK R. WOLF
BARBARA F. VUCANOVICH
RON PACKARD
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